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DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, LIMITED.

(Telephone No. 60.)

Nos. 33 & 34, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Hongkong, 1st September, 1890.



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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONG KONG, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1890.

TELEGRAMS.

SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, October 7th.
The United States Treasury purchased 300,000 ounces of silver on Monday at 112½.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Portuguese gunboat *Tajo* arrived in port this morning from Macao.

We learn from native sources that the troubles in Holoow have subsided, and commerce has been resumed.

The *Thermopylae*, shortly expected from Singapore, has been chartered to proceed from this port to San Francisco.

The *Kostroma*, a three thousand tonner of the Russian "Dobrovolnoe Flot," arrived here to-day from Singapore. She is under the command of Captain Vlasovsky, I.R.N., and carries, amongst her passengers, three Russian generals and several other military officers, with their wives and families, amongst whom is General Council chief of the military staff of South-east Siberia. The *Kostroma* is a new ship and was built at Newcastle-on-Tyne by Messrs. Wigham, Richardson & Co. She steams 14 knots per hour. One hundred and twenty of her passengers, the wives of exiles, will be landed at Baghalan and there remain as colonists.

SIBERIA is said to have a spot of ground about thirty miles square that has not thawed out for a hundred years, and is frozen to a depth of sixty feet.

BYRON'S amusing comedy "Uncle" is the subject which Miss Gracie Plafsted's Company will treat at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, this evening.

A REGULAR Convocation of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 218, S.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 8 for 8.30 o'clock precisely. Visiting companions are cordially invited.

We are informed by the Agents (Messrs. Arnold, Karberg & Co.) that the China Shipper's Mutual S.N. Co.'s steamer *Kailash*, from Middlesbrough and Liverpool, left Singapore for this port yesterday, and may be expected on or about the 14th inst.

CAPT. TAYLER, of the *Diamond*, states that he saw after leaving Manila on Tuesday morning the *Chulista* being towed into Manila by an unknown steamer. He expects that her masts will be brought up by the *Nansing*, due on Saturday morning.

THE Polo match, A. and S. Highlanders v. The Club, which was postponed, will take place on Causeway Bay Ground at 5 p.m. to-morrow, the 10th inst. The Band of the A. & S. Highlanders will attend. There will be a practice game in the intervals of the match.

Of the entire human race 500,000,000 are well clothed—that is, they wear garments of some kind; 250,000,000 habitually go naked, and 700,000,000 only cover parts of the body; 500,000,000 live in houses, 700,000,000 in huts and caves, and 250,000,000 virtually have no shelter.

THE Band of the A. & S. Highlanders will play the following programme at Causeway Bay, to-morrow, commencing at 4.45 p.m.:—

March "Pines and Larch" (Harrison).
Waltz "Grass an' Hanover" (Libby).
Scherzo "The Princess of Trebizond" (Offbach).
Husarenritt "Op. 74" (Spidler).
Gigue "Polo" (Mars).

THE following exhibit shows the rate of the internal taxes per gallon of pure alcohol in European countries: Denmark, 40 cents; Austria, 20 cents; Italy, 22 cents; Germany, 24 cents; Roumania, 31 cents; Belgium, 54 cents; Sweden, 70 cents; France, \$1.14; Russia, \$1.77; England, \$3.61.

The Government Statistician of New South Wales, T. A. Cophlan, has estimated the population of Australia at the beginning of the current year to be 3,780,798. This is an increase during 1889 of 133,995, or 3.10 per cent. The population of New Zealand is now 620,270, an increase during the year 1889 of 12,899.

YESTERDAY, as one of the Peak tram-cars was ascending the hill, the brake chain broke and became entangled round the axle of two trucks. The car was immediately stopped, and on examination it was found that both axles were sprung to such an extent that it was necessary to take them out and send them to be straightened.

PROFESSOR (lecturing)—It is an established fact that a person cannot live for any length of time with only one lung. Student—I know a woman who has been living with one lung for a good many years, and is hale and hearty. Professor (excitedly)—Impossible! Prove it, sir! Who is it? Student—The wife of the Chinese Minister at Washington; his name is One Lung.

THE Band of the A. & S. Highlanders will play the following programme at the Barrack Square, on Saturday next, commencing at 7.30 p.m.:—

March "Among the Soldiers" (Fairbach).
Lancers "Festival" (Cooke).
Waltz "Grass an' Hanover" (Libby).
Scherzo "The Princess of Trebizond" (Offbach).
Husarenritt "Op. 74" (Spidler).
Gigue "Polo" (Mars).

THE German bark *Adolph*, which arrived here from Hamburg via Singapore to-day, reports that after leaving Singapore, when in Lat. 14° north Long. 115° East she found herself on the outskirts of a typhoon, which necessitated her running to the southward for several days. On the 5th instant the wind moderated and shifting to the north-east and eastward she was able to beat up to Hongkong.

ARCHBISHOP RYAN of Philadelphia is fond of *bon mots*, and is a good bon-mot himself. At dinner at Mr. Secretary Blaine's house at Mount Desert, last year, William Walter Phelps said, in the course of a discussion of the Irish question, "But you must admit, Bishop Ryan, that many practices of the Irish in Ireland to-day are treason." "Ah, but treason is reason in Ireland on account of the absent T," retorted the Archbishop.

THE weather in the Red Sea has been extremely hot this season, and passengers coming out during the past month have had a good deal to put up with. The *Oreya* had to be turned round in order that full advantage might be taken of what little breeze there was. One assistant steward died, and over a dozen lady-passengers fainted in consequence of the heat. The *Diophtia*, a French steamer, had a very similar experience, and one day as she was coming through the temperature was 116°.

AN amusing incident, with a rather painful aspect for the one concerned, occurred in M. Andre's haircutting rooms in Singapore a few days ago. It appears that before M. Andre arrived, one of the Chinese employees wished to perfume himself, and for the purpose took up an attractive looking perfume bottle, the liquid contained in which he proceeded to pour over his head; but it was not a pleasant operation, as the perfume turned out to be capsaicin acid. The Chinaman set out for Mr. Mackay's Dispensary considerable despatch, and was attended to as promptly that he escaped serious injury.

THE three pig-pirates whose acts have been the subject of protracted inquiries by Mr. Wodehouse at the Police Court were brought up this morning, on remand. Lau Fui-jing, a military officer from Chinese Kowloon, appeared in court to prove that the piracy of the junk *Wing Hop Ying* was committed in Chinese waters near Chai Wan Chai village. The prisoners were committed to goal pending orders respecting their rendition, a period of 15 days being allowed during which these charming specimens of humanity will have an opportunity of applying to the Supreme Court for a writ of *habeas corpus*.

THERE is a quaint old saying that some people "cannot see wood for trees." The Police occasionally distinguish themselves in this direction. Whilst the senior inspector bothers himself trying traps for the Wei-sing lottery agents here, and gets a few cases in which (cautious to say) the Crown Solicitor deems it his duty to at length appear, half-a-dozen impudent Indian lads pester passers-by in Queen's Road and other thoroughfares, offering Manila lottery tickets. They even go the length of importuning the police themselves, in the Central Station. We may remind our "protections" that an Ordinance directed specially against this offence was passed not very long ago, and that the nuisance is increasing.

VENEZUELA bachelors are taxed one per cent. of their income when making from \$600 to \$1,250 a year, and when upward of \$5,000 the tax is two per cent.

A REGULAR meeting of Perseverance Lodge, No. 1165, E.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, on Thursday, the 10th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

THERE was quite a scene of excitement created at about 10.30 this morning outside a well-known hang on the Bond, says the *Shanghai Mercury* of Saturday last, by a crowd of vociferating and noisy native ladies of all ages, who proceeded thither in a body to protest against an increase in the rental of their houses in the French Concession by the firm. After they had seen the commodore and he had used his efforts to mollify them, promising to exert his influence with his employers on their behalf, the women went away, roundly inveighing in choice vernacular against the injustice of paying "rent," and most of all an increase of some 50 per cent., which they allege had been imposed upon them.

SISTER ROS GERTRUDE, the lady who shortly after Father Damien's death went out under *Pall Mall Gazette* auspices to the Honolulu Loper Station as a volunteer, is about to relinquish her work to make room for Independent missionaries, who are stated to have stirred up considerable feeling against her. Recently, the Board of Health for the district appointed her manager, and his harsh treatment of the patients, coupled with his interference with her own plans, which she considers had worked well, soon disgusted Sister Gertrude. She states that several patients have lately been cured, and this statement was confirmed by Dr. Lutz, the governor's physician, in an interview which a press representative had with him on the subject. Dr. Lutz further expressed his belief that leprosy can be checked, and that it is not contagious. The cases which he had cured, proved not to be beyond the control of physicians.

ANOTHER of those industrious heathen who travel to and from Singapore, and other parts of the East, as second and third-class passengers, for the purpose of "making a haul" out of unsuspecting passengers, was amongst the *elite* at Mr. Wodehouse's magisterial levee this morning. He was charged by Acting Inspector Hanson with stealing a Chinese bill of exchange for \$500 from a fellow passenger on board the steamer *Albatross* while en route from Singapore to Hongkong this week. Chang Cheng Min, a miner from Perak, was called in evidence, and stated that the bill of exchange produced in Court was his property, and that during the voyage up from Singapore, while the ship was pitching and tossing one stormy night, his purse was cut off his belt. He searched for the bill the next day, but could not find it. As soon as he landed he managed to "stop" payment of it. In the meantime the delinquent went to Messrs. Douglas Laprak's, and offered it for sale for the paltry sum of \$30, which was refused. Mr. Laprak immediately telegraphed to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, on which institution the bill was drawn. That fact probably accounted for the defendant coming with it to the Central Station, fearing that its retention by him might lead to very serious consequences. His Worship remanded the case until Monday next, allowing bail in two sureties of \$50 each.

THAT Heaven-sent barrier again! When will the Viceroy of Canton have the good sense to remove that useless relic of the Franco-Chinese *flaque* by having the sticks, stones, and *chairs*, piled up as a barrier in the Canton river, removed once and for all? It is a constant source of annoyance to foreign steamers, and native craft as well. Last night, as the steamer *Pouan* was coming down from Canton, the officer of the watch sighted a fleet of junk coming towards the narrow channel in the barrier. It being manifest that a collision with some of them would probably result from an attempt to keep the ship on her course at full speed the engines were stopped, and in patience the huge vessel awaited the passing of the puny rivals through the barrier. On they came under full sail and with a strong tide; first one, then two, then a dozen or so, one after another, many of them getting foul of the *Pouan* in the narrow waters. One of them by some means got under the port "guard" of the steamer, and it took considerable time to clear her away. No damage was done to the Canton liner, fortunately, but the annoyance of really needless delay had to be borne, as is usual in such cases, with loss of time and more or less risk. This is not the first, but about the thousandth time, that we have called attention to Viceroy Chang's "white elephant." What a pity he couldn't take it with him to Hupch province, where he now is in all his viceregal glory.

BRITISH colonisation, according to a *Sydney Bulletin* writer, is a process of three stages. The first consists in snuffing over the unhappy native, the second in murdering him by various means, and the third in snuffing over him again after he is dead. Other nations murder without the snuff, and as no power yet discovered seems sufficient to preserve a felon and decaying race from extermination we would prefer the foreign method. The snuff is miserably inconspicuous. Even the scanty intelligence of the missionary is sufficient to tell him that the incessant repressing of the Anglo-Saxon will lead him to overrun New Guinea as he has overrun so many other countries in the past, and even the limited reasoning powers of the preacher must tell him that his picture of an Arcadian church on the islands is the completest of shams. He has already failed miserably in every country on earth—including his own—and every successive failure is worse than the last. The shoddy believer who is to sing hymns under the palm-trees never even starts the first verse. The person with the club and the squashed hat who is to be converted and carry round the plate doesn't fulfil his mission worth a cent, because he is away calling a boiled chick upon his native hills. The reclaimed exhorter with the fishbone stuck through his nose never exhorts, and the reason is that he is out killing somebody, or whaling his wife with a bunch of brambles. But if everything else fails the missionary generally gets for enough about the invasion of the best lands before the secular Gaiety of the utmost of his ability. After that the heathen must take his chance, and it is generally a bad one. But, as is most probable, the aboriginal of New Guinea is to go the way of the rest, then for heaven's sake let it be acknowledged openly that he was killed off because he was in the road; and let none of the people who plundered him from the missionary *downwards*, make a hollow show of yearning after him when he is dead. For this yearning business has been *longer* played out, for at least a half a century.

SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

(Before Sir James Russell, Chief Justice.)

AN INTERESTING APPLICATION.

Mr. Robinson (instructed by Mr. Wilkinson) applied to Sir James Russell for an interim injunction to restrain Mr. Bruce Shepherd, Office Administrator, from selling, offering for sale, or otherwise dealing with the furniture of the petitioner, Miss Eva Saunders, at 44, Lyndhurst Terrace.

The application was made under section 18 of the Code. He then read the petitioner's affidavit, which set out that the premises were let to the late A. G. Apcar, but had been in her occupation since August 1889. Apcar only going there as her guest. He died on the 16th ult., and Mr. Shepherd, as the administrator of his estate, had seized the furniture and advertised it for sale by auction. The whole of the furniture belonged to defendant, "with the exception of a piano, cabinet, and some small articles of *verru*" (laughter) and was purchased by her, a considerable portion of it having been paid for by her out of her own money, the rest being bought with money supplied by Apcar out of a loan from her, without any expectation of repayment. The facts of the case, Mr. Robinson contended, were that Miss Saunders was for some time the mistress of A. G. Apcar. Mr. Shepherd, in his official capacity, stood in the shoes of the deceased, and not in the position of a creditor, and as the deceased could not—and if he could, would not—have seized the goods, since he never had any property in them, Mr. Shepherd was acting improperly in so doing.

Accordingly to the affidavit he had not even the right of action to recover any money advanced to him as a debt owing to the woman, and he could no more recover it than he could recover bets on horses or stakes on cards. His Lordship granted the interim injunctions pending the settlement of the dispute.

A FAMILY QUARREL.

Matilda Horton, wife of Inspector Horton appeared at the Police Court this morning before Mr. Wodehouse, in response to a summons charging her with maliciously assaulting Sarah Leslie, her daughter, last week.

Mr. Caldwell, who appeared for the plaintiff, said the complainant and defendant resided at Wanchai in separate houses on opposite sides of the roadway. Last week the mother entered her daughter's house and while using very foul language assaulted her by beating her severely. He (Mr. Caldwell) therefore, upon receipt of instructions from the complainant, sent a letter to the defendant requesting her in very express terms to abstain from further intrusion at her daughter's house and warning her that any further act of violence would become the subject of a Magisterial inquiry. Last Saturday morning the defendant entered her daughter's house and there, in the presence of her amah and boy, committed a most aggravated assault, pulling out a great deal of her daughter's hair and using very filthy language.

Complainant said she had been married to Mr. Leslie, an engineer on board the steamship *Whampoa*, now at Shanghai, for seven years. She was 24 years of age. The defendant was her mother, and they lived opposite each other in Wanchai. She was not dependent on her mother and father. On the morning of the 4th instant she was at home, when, at 7 o'clock, her mother came right up to her in the sitting-room. Her amah, boy, and the defendant were present in the room. The defendant came up to her and said, "You sent me a lawyer's letter!" Witness answered that she had, because she had been abused and assaulted the previous Monday, and protection was necessary. She (the mother) started abusing witness and called her several filthy names and spat in her face. She then ordered her mother out, but the latter not only would not go but rushed at her, seizing her hair and tearing it out. In defence witness struck her mouth with the right hand, which was bitten. Witness then fell on the floor, whereupon her mother battered her with a cloth, bruising her face. While lying on the floor her mother tore her hair out in the bunches produced. Witness had several bruises in various parts of her body. Inspector Horton, her father, then came into the room and was followed by a Sikh constable, whom witness told to go away. Her father sent Mrs. Horton away, and shortly followed himself.

Witness—What do you want now?

Witness—I want protection.

His Worship—What did you do to annoy the defendant?

Witness—She replied that she had been to the theatre and parties. On the evening of the 29th ultimo she was going out of her door towards the theatre when her mother accosted her, and saying she should not go to the theatre, tore her dress off her back and slapped her face violently in the street. Witness then beat a retreat into her house, whither her mamma followed her, and there remained until ten p.m., when she left. The following day witness consulted Mr. Caldwell with the result that the letter referred to was sent to the defendant. Witness did not know why the defendant objected to her going to the theatre.

Der going to the theatre, said she did not deny the assault. In May last her son-in-law, the husband of the plaintiff, left for Japan without saying good-bye to either his wife or her (defendant). Shortly after his arrival in Japan he wrote to defendant stating that he left because a Mr. Campbell had intervened between himself and his wife. He had made up his mind not to return to Hongkong, but would send for his wife as soon as he obtained employment; meanwhile he would be glad if the witness would look after the daughter and his children. Some little while after her husband wrote for his wife to come up to join him in Shanghai, but instead of going—as she (Mrs. Horton) had repeatedly urged her to do—she stopped in Hongkong and was carrying on in a shocking manner with a new "fame" named Purvis, a miner. She thought his Worship must perceive that her conduct was justifiable under the circumstances, for the violence was used merely with a view to preventing her daughter from disgracing her and her husband, Inspector Horton.

His Worship said that the defendant had married daughter, who was free, by law, to do as she pleased. The complainant had not asked for a penalty to be imposed, and he would therefore refrain from inflicting one; but if she were again before the Court on a similar charge there could be little doubt that a fine would be the result. He hoped the defendant would take these remarks as sufficient and avoid the recurrence of such an affair.

Mr. Caldwell—in view of the aggravated nature of the case I would beg your Worship to bind the defendant over in a substantial sum to keep the peace.

His Worship (to the defendant)—Will you give me your assurance that you will not trouble the complainant any more?

Defendant—Yes, your Worship.

His Worship—Then I will accept your assurance and let it pass this time.

Complainant—Her temper is so violent, your Worship!

His Worship—You have a perfect right to do as you please. That will do, the case is over.

THE REVOLT OF THE JURY.

Reverend Martin's libellous incursions did, it is evident, prove an unequalled service to the public character of New South Wales Railway Commissioner Eddy. They gave that official a favorable opportunity of showing that he had not, in certain widely canvassed transactions, abused the trust his employers reposed in him. Now it appears that the sentence of two years

hard-labour meted out to the libeller may be made to contribute somewhat towards the attainment of another object—namely, the ending of the official reputation of the libeller. The verdict of a jury of his own country is of but very slender moment. One of the jurors who found Martin guilty, wrote to the newspapers a few days ago, saying that, had he known Judge McFarland would impose a sentence so monstrously out of proportion with the malignity of the offence, nothing but physical exhaustion would have induced him to concur in the finding. Another juror writes to say that he was trapped into a verdict by the Crown Prosecutor's declaration that it was no part of the jury's duty to consider Martin's intentions or motives when he wrote the libel. It is not the novelty of these jurors' sentiments which suggests reflection. Many jurors, and many a jury, on finding the verdict cast by them followed by a vindictive, a blind, or a savage punishment, have privately wished that they could take the finding back. These two jurors step into the open, however, and dissent from the sentence in language which indicates that when next called upon for a verdict, they will make it their business to find not alone what is the fact, but whether the law under which it falls is blind, vindictive, or savage.

For generations it has been insisted that the whole duty of man as a juror was to pronounce on the fact of the guilt or innocence of an accused. The kind and degree of the punishment to be inflicted were authoritatively excluded from his consideration. If he became aware that an offence, venial in his eyes, was to be followed by a punishment, barbarous and cruel, he was instructed to relate the latter fact forgetfulness and devote his entire energies to the investigation of the first. As a matter of order, thinking the instruction was no doubt commendable. One part of a subject should be completed at a time. But gradually jurors discovered that by obeying the instruction to the letter they passed persons on to punishments greatly in excess of the enormity of their crimes. Now came conflict. The juror out of joint with law was met by a legal obligation on one side and by a duty to his conscience on the other. He could refuse to pass the culprit on and break his oath, or act up to his oath and constitute himself an accomplice in the infliction of an undue punishment. Sometimes, indeed, he found himself (and still finds) confronted by the alternatives of perjury or murder. Here is where average human nature has proved, and will prove, itself stronger than any argument yet brought to bear upon it on itself of Law. If a culprit can only be punished through a jury pronouncing that he must be punished, the average juror will feel that he has a right to at least take part in dictating the measure of the punishment.

When once his sense of the fair proportion between an offence and its punishment has been legally violated this feeling will amount to a demand, and if the demand be too long resisted, will result in a system in which jurors will sit obstinately in their room applauded by their consciences and set the judicial machinery at defiance. Martin's jurors are only bolder than a thousand others, but a couple of hundred like them are all that are wanted to bring the present system of trial by jury to absolute end in every Australian capital. The jurors sit on the bench, the judge sits on the bench, the prisoner stands in the dock—with a couple of men like Martin's jurors on each jury, where is law to come in? The approach of this legal cataclysm has, it must be confessed, not been unobserved. Sir Alfred Stephen has for years past been urging that juries should be disbanded once for all, and that accused persons should be handed over just as they are to the remorseless judicial clutch. He has not succeeded in impressing great number with his idea, but, looking to the future, we see nothing for it except compliance with Sir Alfred's requirements or to confer upon jurors those powers the denial of which makes so many of them intractable. Those jurors who dispute the punishments which follow their verdicts are but the intelligent successors of the jurors of eighty and a hundred years ago who systematically and stolidly declared proved culprits not guilty. Jurors then perceived the conflict between punishment as it was and as it should be, and although told, then as now, that the verdict alone, and the consequent punishment, was their concern, they marched boldly to the box and peeped themselves in the interests of God and of humanity.

We call the remonstrant jurors of the present intelligent successors of these old fighters. The battle is the same. The individual, the communal living sense of justice, then fought with the stereotyped, governing-class methods and measures of punishment. Though the present is democratic to a degree, its statutes are the children of undemocratic times, and methods and measures of punishment are as repugnant to the living sense now as when the only weapon that could be lifted against them was perjury. To-day the chief but not only weapon is public remonstrance, public dissent, public refusal to accord merely a yes or a nay. The old terms that surrounded the judicial bench have been displaced. The majesty of authority is now a vacant phrase or is taken to reside wherever truth and justice are dominant. It is to be looked for illuminating the steeple head of a grocer in the jury-box with just as much certainty of finding it as under fantastic head-dresses of Justice or Chief Justice. Nor has the growth of this intelligence been limited to jury circles alone. It has touched the people on all sides; and wherever authority stands, not on justice, but on the name of authority, the British soldier stood cowed before his commandant. The bound would sooner turn on the master who whined his whip about its ears than the soldier on the man in command. To-day, regiments of his kind lay down terms, and it is their terms be just the whole. British people will support their demand for fair play. Who was more humble than Policeman X? His heavy tread and solemn visage marked him out for a man whom superior officers might count for ever as their own. But the boy has lifted his hat to authority, and if he proves he has justice on his side the public will help him to knock the ages old sham out of position. Authority, as authority, is doomed. The soldier is dead—and will shortly be buried. The soldier no longer bows, the constable no longer bows down, the juror no longer perjures himself. For each public opinion is an open court, and he only will be invested with highest authority who substantiates his claim to it in presence of that court.—*Sydney Bulletin*.

THE HYPNOTIST.

A man once read with a mind surprised of the power of that people who "hypnotized" by waving of hands you produced, forsooth, a kind of trance where men told the truth! His mind was filled with a wondrous doubt. He grabbed his hat and he started out. He walked the street and he made a "set" at the first half dozen folk he met. He "tranced" them all, and without a joke

was caught as follows the subjects spoke:—
I am a doctor, London-made, and I look profound. Listen awhile till I show you round. When Courts are sitting and work is flush I hurry about in a frantic rush. I take your brief and I look to see That the same is marked with a thumping fee; But just as your case is drawing near I bob serenely and disappear. And away in another corner I lurk While a junior barrister does your work; And I ask my fee with a courtly grace, Although I never came near the case. The loss means ruin to you, maybe, But nevertheless I must have my fee! For the lawyer laughs in his cruel sport While his clients march to the Bankrupt Court.

THIRD MAN.

I am a banker, wealthy and bold— A solid man, I keep my hold Over a pile of the public's gold. I am as skilled as skilled can be In every matter of £ s. d. I count the money, and night by night I balance it up to a farthing right; In sooth, 'twould a strange and perplex My double entry and double check. Yet it sometimes happens by some strange crook That a ledger-keeper will "take his hook" With a couple of hundred thousand "quid," And no one can tell how the thing was did!

FOURTH MAN.

I am an editor, bold and free. Behind the great impersonal "We." I hold the power of the Mystic Three. What scandal ever would dare to hint That anything crooked appears in print! Perhaps an actor is all the rage, He struts his hour on the mimic stage, With skill he interprets all the scenes— And yet next morning I give him beans. I slate his show from the foats to flies, Because the beggar won't advertise. And sometimes columns of print appear About a mine, and it makes it clear That the same is all that one's heart could wish— A dozen ounces to every dish. But the reason we print those statements fine Is—the editor's uncle owns the mine.

THE LAST STRAW.

A preacher, I, and I take my stand In pulpit decked with a gown and band. To point the way to a better land. With sanctimonious and reverent look I read it out of the sacred book That he who would open the golden door Must give his all to the starving poor. But I vary the practice to some extent. By investing money at twelve per cent. After I've preached for a decent while I clear for "home" with a lordly pile. I lighten my congregation well With fear of torment and threat of hell. Although I know that the scientists Can't find that any such place exists. And when they prove it beyond mistake! That the world took millions of years to make, And never was built by the seventh day I say in a pained and insulted way That "Thomas also presumed to doubt," And thus do I rub my opponents out. For folks may widen their mental range, But priest and parson they never change.

With dragging footsteps and downcast head

The hypocrite went home to bed, And since that very successful treat It has given the magic art rest! Had he heeded the ladies' and gentlemen's right, What curious tales might have come to light!

"BANJO" in *Sydney Bulletin*.

POORLY PAID JUDGES.

obtained a life position in the Federal Judiciary. Had he been appointed Judge of the United States District Court he would have resigned, to resume the practice of his profession. There is a latent danger lurking in this condition of affairs, as every thoughtful citizen must see. In a government constituted like ours it is of the highest importance that the judiciary should be above reproach. It should challenge respect and inspire confidence. The only way to place the bench in a position to command popular respect and confidence is to enable it to command the best talent and learning at the bar.—*Alta California*.

A CONTEST FOR ENDURANCE.

THE CHAMPION OILY DEVOURER.

One of those delightfully unconventional affairs which now and then create a ripple August the "sports" of New York, occurred the other day at Mr. John Mulvihill's saloon, 288 Front Street, sometimes called the "Truck Drivers' Retreat." It was an onion-eating match of more than ordinary pretensions. The entries for the championship were Colonel Joe Brown, a colored gentleman with a vigorous appetite; George, the Norwegian, an acquaintance of Henrik Ibsen, the playwright; Paddy the Sojer, a gentleman of leisure; and an aspirant for onion-eating honors named Billy Burke. Daniel O'Connell held the watch and acted as referee. The onions were placed on a round table on soup plates. The contestants were of the Bermuda variety, succulent and odoriferous. A liberal quantity of salt, pepper and vinegar was provided. The prizes were a five-dollar bill and the notoriety consequent upon victory. The conditions were briefly that the man who ate the largest number of onions in ten minutes should win.

A hundred interested spectators crowded round the contestants and eagerly awaited the signal to begin. At about 9.15 o'clock O'Connell gave the word, and five onions rose simultaneously to ten eager sets of teeth. The Norwegian had the largest mouth. His teeth closed on a whole onion. As he crushed to between his jaws the powerful and elastic incisor arose into his eyes and made him wink and blink like a toad in a shower. The others were more deliberate. They stopped to remove the skins from the onions with knives, thereby permitting the Norwegian to get well along on the quarter-stretch, and take a good lead. On the second bulb, however, the Norwegian was seized with a sudden and violent fit of coughing, which allowed Colonel Brown to catch up and pass the lead in a cater. The Colonel grinned, showed his splendid teeth and settled down to hold his lead. Meanwhile the pace had become too hot for Paddy the Sojer, Billy Burke and George Stinger, who retired to the hydrant to wash away the pungent Bermuda taint which had mingled with their breath, while the crowd cheered the two remaining men.

At the end of five minutes the Norwegian was rapidly regaining his lost ground by attacking strictly to business, while Colonel Brown alternated dallied with the contestants. As the minutes went by it appeared that he was up-and-tuck race, but the Colonel forged steadily ahead because of his eminently superior grinders, and came under the wire a clean onion to the good. He had eaten eight onions in the ten minutes, and was declared the victor by acclamation. The disappointed Norwegian turned sadly away from the table and exclaimed: "I ain't much on eatin', but I'd like to see the man can beat me drinkin'!"

Paddy the Sojer accounted for his failure by the remark: "I had a bit o' bread wid me legguins I c'd beat the world!"

The winners squandered his hard-earned money over the bar.

CESAR'S IDEAS ON MARRIAGE.

The young wife died; but when Cesar again thought of marriage the political sides had changed. He had held firm to the idea marriage, and he now conciliated the Syria faction by marrying Pompeia, the granddaughter of Syria, and a kinswoman of Syria's pet, Pompey the Great, then in the zenith of his popularity. It seems to have been from the beginning a marriage of politics and not of affection. Pompeia was not beloved. And the political sides went on changing. The star of Syria sank beneath the horizon, and the star of Cesar mounted higher and higher. When all advantages that could spring from adding Pompeia had been respected, Cesar's thoughts turned elsewhere. The plots of Syria against Cesar's Cornelia must seal the dead lips of Syria against reproach, should Cesar repudiate Pompeia. But it was not the dead that Cesar regarded. It behooved him only to have a specious case to present to the living.

Cesar made short work of his part in the transaction. He divorced Pompeia. It is not certain that Pompeia knew of Claudius' plan, though it is possible. It is not certain or probable that Claudius, as he was, was near anything more than a foolish and impudent folly. It is not impossible or altogether improbable that Cesar, Aurelia and Claudius were in collusion against Pompeia. It is certain that, when Cesar was called upon to testify at the trial of Claudius, he declared that he knew nothing of what was alleged against him. It is certain that, when Claudius afterward became a candidate for high office, Cesar, as Chief Magistrate—let us say President—took an active and successful part in furthering his election. But he immediately divorced Pompeia. And he could offer no better reason, saturated all through and through as he was with immorality, than the cruel sophism, "Cesar's wife should be above suspicion."

The world has taken him at his word; he has forgotten outraged Pompeia, has failed to discern this glittering and sounding generality, the base pretext of a man who was hunting for pretexts to divorce his wife, has accepted it, at Cesar's own valuation, as the lofty requirements of a lofty soul!

Justified himself in the spiritual world as he made him rejoice that his sin has found him out in this, even at so late a day.—*Gail Hamilton, in North American Review for August.*

Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites, is prescribed by Physicians all over the world. It is a remarkable remedy for Consumption, Scrophulous, and wasting diseases, and very palatable. Read the following:—I have much pleasure in stating that I have tried Scott's Emulsion in a case of impoverished blood, with scrophulous disease, and found it to be a very efficient preparation. It was taken without the least difficulty.—A. TEMPLE PERKINS, 22, Lordship Park, Stoke Newington, N. Any Chemist can supply it.—A. S. Watson & Co. (Ld.), Agents in Hongkong and China.—[Advt.]

Today's Advertisements.

NOTICE.

M. R. JOHN HUGHES LEWIS is hereby authorized to sign our Firm per procurator from this date.

DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.
Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1412]

To-day's Advertisements.

THEATRE ROYAL
CITY HALL, HONGKONG.

GRACIE PLAISTED'S "MY SWEET-HEART" COMPANY.

TO-NIGHT.

THURSDAY, the 9th October.

Byron's Farical Comedy,

"U N C L E."

Box Plan at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH'S.

CHAS. HARDING,

Manager.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1395]

ST. ANDREW'S CHAPTER,
HONGKONG,
No. 218, S.C.

A REGULAR CONVOCATION will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, THIS EVENING, the 9th instant, at 8 for 8.30 o'clock precisely. Visiting Companions are cordially invited.
Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1403]

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF
HONGKONG,
No. 1165.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on THURSDAY, the 10th instant, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited to attend.
Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1411]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
FOR MANILA, via AMOY.

THE Company's Steamship
"DIAMANTE,"
Captain G. Taylor, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SATURDAY, the 11th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1409]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY, & FOOCHEW.
THE Company's Steamship
"NAMOA,"
Captain Pocock, will be despatched for the above Ports, on SUNDAY, the 12th instant, at DAY-LIGHT.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1410]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, AND ADELAIDE.
(Calling at PORT DARWIN, and QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship
"AIRLIE,"
Captain Ellis, will be despatched for the above Ports, on FRIDAY, the 17th October, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1413]

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE.

VIA
THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

THE Steamship
"GAELIC,"
will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 1st November, at 1 P.M.

Connection will be made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports. All PARCEL PACKAGES should be marked to address in full, and saved will be received at the Company's Office until Five P.M. the day previous to sailing.

First-class Fare granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco and return.....393.75
To Liverpool.....330.00
To London.....330.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (on vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Ports beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further information as to Passage or Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 504, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HARMAN,

Agent.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1412]

NOTICE.

THOMAS KERR & CO.

ENGINEERS, BOILER-MAKERS

AND CONTRACTORS.

YAU-MA-TI ENGINEERING WORKS,

KOWLOON.

OFFICE—No. 12, D'Agulhar Street.

Hongkong, 9th August, 1890. [1412]

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.

(LATE THE HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY, LIMITED.)

GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTING DEPARTMENT.

ARE NOW SHOWING.

TAN RUSSIA LEATHER BOOTS.
TAN RUSSIA LEATHER SHOES.
PATENT LEATHER SHOES.
CALF LEATHER SHOES.
MOROCCO LEATHER SHOES.
COURT SHOES.

LAWN TENNIS SHOES.
SILK AND SPUN SILK SOCKS, for Evening Wear.
PLAIN AND FANCY STRIPED CASHMERE SOCKS.
MERINO SOCKS, LISLE THREAD SOCKS.
RIBBED WOOL SOCKS.

The "ROYAL" DRESS SHIRTS for Evening Wear.
The "MONARCH" SHIRTS. The new "H.R.H." SHIRT.
LONG CLOTH SHIRTS, from \$14 per dozen upwards.

Newest and most fashionable shapes in FELT HATS.
RAIN COATS—The "Inverness," The "Scarborough," &c., &c.
UMBRELLAS and WALKING STICKS.

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.

(Late THE HALL & HOLTZ C. Co., Ltd.)

Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [13]

MARINE HOTEL

HONGKONG.

THE Undersigned begs to notify the Public of Hongkong and the Coast Ports, that

THE MARINE HOTEL is NOW OPEN.

THIS FIRST-CLASS HOTEL is situated on the Praya West, opposite the Old P. & O. Wharf, and is newly built after the designs of the Largest European Hotels—the BEDROOMS, BATH-ROOMS, &c., are commodious, well ventilated and well furnished, and are suitable for Single or Married Persons. THE DINING ROOM is large and looks on the Harbour.

The TABLE D'HOTE will be supplied with the best market can provide.

The BAR and BILLIARD ROOMS are on the Ground Floor, and are fitted up in superior style. ENGLISH and AMERICAN TABLES.

WINES and LIQUORS of the best qualities and Brands only will be supplied.

The Undersigned therefore begs the patronage of the Public, hoping to give every satisfaction.

JAS. EDWARDS, Proprietor.

Hongkong, 11th August, 1890. [1476]

Masonic.

EOTHEN MARK LODGE
OF HONGKONG, No. 264.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on MONDAY EVENING, the 13th instant, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 9th October, 1890. [1404]

ST. JOHN LODGE
OF HONGKONG,
No. 618, S.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on TUESDAY, the 14th instant, at 8.30 for 9 P.M. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 8th October, 1890. [1407]

Hotels.

THE SHAMHEEN HOTEL
BRITISH CONCESSION, CANTON.

THIS FIRST CLASS HOTEL, admirably situated within a few minutes walk of the River Steamer Wharves, is now open to receive Visitors.

The Bed-rooms are cool, airy and comfortably furnished, and the spacious Dining Room, Sitting Room, and accommodation generally will be found equal to the best Hotels in the Far East.

The Table D'Hote is supplied with every luxury in season, and the cuisine is in experienced hands.

Wines, Spirits, Malt Liquors, &c., of the best quality only.

C. BOND,

Manager.

Hongkong, 14th July, 1890. [1407]

THE HOTEL MARINA.

THIS strictly FIRST CLASS HOTEL, now moored in the Harbour of Victoria, offers guests exceptional advantages for Healthfulness and Refreshing breezes; the avoidance of street noises, and unwholesome odours, &c.

Grand Promenade Deck, Airy Dining Room, Ladies' Parour, Billiard and Reading Rooms, Commodious Bedrooms, with separate Bathroom and Verandah to each.

The Table D'Hote is unexcelled.

The Hotel Launch runs regularly to and from Peddar's Wharf and the Hotel Free of Charge; for time table see Bill.

Hongkong, 13th August, 1890. [1178]

THE BOA VISTA.

BISHOP'S BAY, MACAO.

THIS House, situated on the sea shore in one of the best and healthiest parts of Macao, and commanding an admirable view facing the South, was OPENED as a HOTEL on the 1st July.

Every comfort will be provided for visitors, with excellent cuisine and choice Wines.

Hot, Cold, Shower and Sea Water Baths. Large and well ventilated Dining, Billiard, and Reading Rooms, and well supplied Bar.

A small dairy is attached to the premises.

Mrs. MARIA B. DOS REEMEDIOS, Proprietress.

HONGKONG HIGH LEVEL TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LTD.

SUMMER TIME-TABLE.

To take effect from 1st May.

The CARS RUN between St. John's Place and Victoria Gap as follows:—

WEEK DAYS.

8 to 10 A.M. every quarter of an hour.

12 to 1 P.M. every quarter of an hour.

1 to 2 P.M. every half hour.

4 to 8 P.M. every quarter of an hour.

THURSDAYS.

NIGHT TRAM at 10.30 and 11 P.M.

SUNDAYS.

CHURCH TRAM at 10.45 A.M.

12 (NOON) to 2 P.M. every quarter of an hour.

4 to 8 P.M. every quarter of an hour.

9 to 10.30 and 11 P.M.

Special Cars may be obtained on application to the Superintendent.

Single Tickets are sold in the Cars, Five-Cent Coupons and Reduced Tickets at the Office.

MACKENZIE, FRICKEL & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th April, 1890. [1404]

Intimations.

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MACKENZIE, FRICKEL & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 9th April, 1890. [1404]

Int

Commercial.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, 225 per cent.
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, New Issue—
 \$101 per share, buyers.
 Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$100 per
 share, buyers.
 China Traders' Insurance Company—\$63 per
 share, sellers.
 North China Insurance—Tia. 340 per share,
 sellers.
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$117½ per
 share, buyers.
 Yangtze Insurance Association—Tia. 70 per
 share, buyers.
 On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tia. 150
 per share.
 Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$377½ per
 share, sellers.
 China Fire Insurance Company—\$89 per share,
 buyers.
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—\$73
 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—
 \$35 per share, buyers.
 China and Manila Steam Ship Company—115
 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Gas Company—\$135 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Hotel Company—\$165 per share
 sellers.
 Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures
 —\$501.
 Indo-China Steam Navigation Company,
 Limited—27½ per cent. discount, sellers.
 Douglas Steamship Company—\$48 per share,
 sellers.
 China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$171
 per share, sellers.
 Luen Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$105
 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong Ice Company—\$95 per share,
 sellers.
 Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited
 —\$80 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$10 per
 share, sellers.
 A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$23 per share,
 buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—2½ per cent.
 premium, sellers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent.
 premium, buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1885 E—1½ per cent.
 premium.
 Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company,
 Limited—\$120 per share, buyers.
 The Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.—\$25
 per share, nominal.
 Pungim and Sunghie Dus Samantan Mining Co.
 —\$41 per share, sellers.
 The Raub Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$1.50 per share,
 buyers.
 Imuris Mining Co., Ltd.—\$9 per share, sellers.
 The Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited—\$11
 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong and Godown Wharf and Godown
 Company—\$76 per share, sellers.
 Tongatui Coal Mining Co.—\$450 per share,
 buyers.
 The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co.,
 Limited—\$105 per share, buyers.
 The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$19
 per share, buyers.
 H. G. Brown & Co., Ltd.—\$52 per share, buyers.
 The Sogel Koyah Planting Co., Ltd.—\$15
 per share, sellers.
 Cruickshank & Co., Ltd.—\$40 per share, nom.
 The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.
 The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Co., Ltd.
 —\$10 per share, sellers.
 The China-Borneo Co., Ltd.—\$13 per share,
 sellers.
 The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Ltd.—
 \$18 per share, sellers.
 The Green Island Cement Co.—\$28 per share,
 sellers.
 The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Ltd.—\$90
 per share, buyers.
 The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Ltd.—\$6
 per share, sellers.
 Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—\$25 per share,
 nominal.
 The West Point Buildings Co., Ltd.—\$32 per
 share, sellers.
 The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Ltd.—\$20 per
 share, sellers.
 The Labuk Planting Co., Ltd.—\$22 per share,
 buyers.
 The Lamag Planting Co., Ltd.—\$10 per share,
 buyers.
 The Jelobu Mining and Trading Co., Ltd.—\$4
 per share, sellers.
 The Selama Tin Mining Co., Ltd.—\$21 per share,
 buyers.
 The Shamene Hotel Co., Ltd.—nominal.
 The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Ltd.—\$19
 per share, sellers.
 The Trust and Loan Co. of China and Japan—
 \$101 per share, buyers.
 The Hongkong Marine, Limited—par, nominal.

MAILS EXPECTED.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Rosetta*,
 with the outward English mail, left Singapore
 on Wednesday, the 8th instant at 5 p.m., and
 may be expected here on Monday, the 13th.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.
 The P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer *City of Rio de*
Janeiro, left San Francisco for this port, via
 Yokohama on the 23rd ultimo.

THE INDIAN MAIL.
 The Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer *Kutang*,
 from Calcutta, left Singapore on Saturday, the
 4th instant, and is expected here on the 10th
 instant.

THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.
 The E. & A. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Avila*, left
 Port Darwin on Friday, the 3rd instant, and
 may be expected here on or about the 12th.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.
 The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Glaucus*,
 from Liverpool, left Singapore on the 4th instant,
 and is due here on the 11th.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s extra steamer *Thetis*,
 from Bombay, left Singapore on the 5th instant
 at 6 a.m., and may be expected here on or about
 Saturday next, the 12th.
 The Ocean Steamship Co.'s steamer *Dardanus*,
 from Liverpool, left Singapore to-day, and
 is due here on the 13th instant.
 The China Shippers' Mutual S. N. Co.'s
Kailow, from Middlesbrough and Liverpool,
 left Singapore on the 8th instant, and may be
 expected here on the 14th.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Vanilla*, left
 Bombay on the 3rd instant at 1 p.m., and may
 be expected here on the 10th.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.
 ASHINGTON, German steamer, 809, C. Zindel,
 8th October, Wuhu 4th October, Rice—
 Siemens & Co.
 MEYPOO, Chinese steamer, 1,284, W. H. Lum,
 9th October, Shanghai 5th Oct., General—
 C. M. S. N. Co.
 KONG BANG, British steamer, 263, R. Jones, 9th
 October, Bangkok 27th Sept., and Koh-el-
 chang 20th, General—Yuen Fat Hong.
 DIAMANT, British steamer, 514, G. A. Taylor,
 9th Oct., Manila 6th October, General—
 Russell & Co.
 GLENCOIL, British str., 1,715, H. C. Holm, 9th
 October, Penang 20th September, Iron—
 Order.
 HAIPHONG, French steamer, 846, Feraud, 9th
 Oct., Haiphong 7th October, General—
 Messageries Maritimes.
 KOSTROMA, Russian steamer, 2,640, Ivanovsky,
 9th Oct., from Singapore, General—Mel-
 chers & Co.
 TAIJO, Portuguese gunboat, 350, C. A. Borge,
 9th October, Macao 9th October.
 ELSE, German steamer, 747, M. Jensen, 9th
 Oct., Haiphong 5th October, General—A.
 R. Marty.

CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.
 Canton, British steamer, for Shanghai.
 Luzon, American ship, for New York.
 Glenfalloch, British bark, for Callao.
 Oceanic, British steamer, for Amoy, &c.
 Bisagno, Italian steamer, for Singapore, &c.
 Frey, Danish steamer, for Hoihow.
 Ly-e-moon, British steamer, for Shanghai.

DEPARTURES.
 October 8, Peking, German str., for Whampoa.
 October 8, Somditch Phra Nang, British str.,
 for Bangkok.
 October 9, Saghalien, French str., for Saigon
 and Marseilles.
 October 9, Oceanic, British str., for Amoy, &c.
 October 9, Haiphong, British steamer, for Swa-
 tow, &c.
 October 9, Moyne, British steamer, for Singa-
 pore, &c.
 October 9, Teucer, British steamer, for Singa-
 pore, &c.
 October 9, Glenfalloch, British steamer, for
 Singapore, &c.
 October 9, Bisagno, Italian steamer, for Singa-
 pore, &c.
 October 9, Natal, French str., for Shanghai.
 October 9, Memnon, British str., for Kodaik, &c.
 October 9, Ly-e-moon, British str., for Shanghai.
 October 9, Canton, British str., for Shanghai.
 October 9, Afghan, British steamer, for Naga-
 saki, &c.

PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.
 Per *Meefoo*, str., from Shanghai, 13 Chinese.
 Per *Kong Beng*, str., from Bangkok, 40
 Chinese.
 Per *Diamant*, str., from Manila, Master W.
 Armstrong, and 20 Chinese.
 Per *Haiphong*, str., from Haiphong, Messrs.
 Bavier-Chauffou and 3 servants, Durand,
 Orange, Warren, Tayan, and 6 Chinese.
 Per *Kowloon*, str., from Singapore, Generals
 Kussel, Toperman, Colonels Mesenoff, Boubouff,
 and officers (30) for Vladivostok, with their
 families.
 Per *Haiphong*, str., for Swatow, &c.—250
 Chinese.
 Per *Moyne*, str., for Singapore, &c.—2 Euro-
 peans.
 Per *Teucer*, str., for Singapore, &c.—854
 Chinese.
 Per *Glenfalloch*, str., for Singapore, &c.—70
 Chinese.
 Per *Bisagno*, str., for Singapore, &c.—2 Euro-
 peans and 100 Chinese.
 Per *Ly-e-moon*, str., for Shanghai—20
 Chinese.
 Per *Saghalien*, str., for Singapore, Deputy
 Surgeon-General H. F. Paterson, For Batavia.
 Capt. T. Roy. For Colombo.—Mr. C. Allan.
 For Marseilles.—Mr. A. Johnson.
 Per *Oceanic*, str., for Yokohama.—Mr. J. A.
 Mosely and native servant, Messrs. R. T.
 Wright, W. N. Wallace, W. R. Needham, T. E.
 Davies, and 2 Europeans. For San Francisco.
 —Mr. A. Dean. For London.—Mr. and Mrs.
 Heath, Mrs. M. T. Varr and T. Rennie.
 DEPART.
 Per *Lancfield*, bark, for Callao, 4 Chinese.
 Per *Freij*, str., for Hoihow, 1 European and
 100 Chinese.

REPORTS.
 The British steamship *Ashtington* reports that
 she left Wuhu on the 4th instant. Had fine
 weather and fresh north-east breeze throughout.
 The Chinese steamship *Meifoo* reports that
 she left Shanghai on the 5th instant. Had
 strong north-east monsoon with high sea and
 fine weather throughout.
 The British steamship *Diamant* reports that
 she left Manila on the 6th instant. Had fresh
 to moderate north-east monsoon with consider-
 able sea and fine weather.
 The British steamship *Kong Beng* reports that
 she left Bangkok on the 27th ultimo, and Koh-
 el-chang on the 20th. Had moderate winds and
 fine weather to Cape Palawan. Overcast and
 threatening weather with high north-east swell
 to near the Paracels, where strong winds were
 met on the 3rd instant, blowing with typhoon
 force for 3 days from north-west and west on
 the 5th, it moderated and gradually changed to
 north-east, blowing a strong monsoon to port.

Post Office.

A MAIL WILL CLOSE.
 For Shanghai.—Per *Fooking* to-morrow, the
 10th instant, at 3:30 p.m.
 For Amoy and Manila.—Per *Diamant* on
 Saturday, the 11th instant, at 3:30 p.m.
 For Swatow, Amoy, & Fooking.—Per *Namoa*
 on Saturday, the 11th instant, at 5:00 p.m.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.
STEAMERS.
 ADALIA, German steamer, 1,666, E. Christian-
 sen, 7th October, Singapore 20th Sept.,
 General—Siemens & Co.
 CHOYANG, British steamer, 1,194, W. P. Sawyer,
 7th Oct., Manila 5th October, General—
 Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 FAME, British steamer, 1,171, J. H. St. John,
 7th Oct., British Government tender.
 FREY, Danish steamer, 419, C. A. Lund, 7th
 October, Pakhoi 10th October, and Hoihow
 6th, General—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
 HONGKONG, British steamer, 2,045, W. J. B.
 Watkins, 28th Sept., London 14th August,
 and Singapore 21st Sept., General—P. &
 O. S. N. Co.
 INDEPENDENT, German steamer, 871, Hachen-
 winkler, 7th October, Macao 5th October,
 General—Wielor & Co.
 JOHANN, German steamer, 428, F. Blang, 7th
 October, Pakhoi 30th Sept., and Hoihow
 6th, General—Wielor & Co.
 MARIE, German steamer, 704, A. C. Hundewald,
 7th October, Pakhoi 3rd October, and
 Hoihow 6th, General—A. R. Marty.
 MOUNT HEBRON, British steamer, 1,668, Elliott,
 19th August, Haiphong 12th August, Bal-
 list, Adamson, Bell & Co.

HONGKONG—STEAMERS.

Continued.
 NAMOA, British steamer, 853, T. G. Pocock,
 8th Oct., Fooking 3rd October, Amoy
 4th, and Swatow 7th, General—D. Laprak
 & Co.
 PARTHA, British steamer, 2,035, J. Pantou, 4th
 October, Vancouver 11th Sept., via Yoko-
 ham and Nagasaki 1st October, General—
 Adamson, Bell & Co.
 PICCOLA, German steamer, 875, Th. Nissen,
 19th Sept., Kobe 11th Sept., Coala-
 Melchers & Co.
 PILOT FISH, British steamer, 161, A. Stopani-
 & Co.
 RIVERDALE, British steamer, 1,311, James
 Mooney, 4th Oct., Kutchinot 28th Sept.,
 Coala—Adamson, Bell & Co.
 TAICHING, German steamer, 828, P. Duane,
 27th Sept., Saigon 24th Sept., Rhine-
 Meyer & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.
 ADOLPH, German bark, 464, Westergaard, 8th
 October, Hamburg 4th June, General—
 Carlowitz & Co.
 ALTHEA, British bark, 399, T. Munro, 27th
 Sept., Albany, 8th August, Sandalwood—
 Order.
 ANNE, British bark, 1,297, Chas. S.
 Robinson, 20th July, New York and
 March, Petroleum—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
 BUCCLEUCH, British ship, 1,991, P. Johansen,
 16th Sept., Cardiff 1st June, Coala—Ad-
 amson, Bell & Co.
 CHARON WATTANA, Siamese bark, 656, W. L.
 Cain, 1st Sept., Wah Hin 13th August
 Timber and Sapanwood—Captain.
 COMET, German ship, 1,083, R. Kripper, 27th
 Sept., Cardiff 19th May, Coala—Order.
 CONSTANCE, British ship, 1,592, P. R. Fingley,
 4th Sept., 24th July, April, Paradise—
 Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 GEORGE SKOTFIELD, American ship, 1,276, A.
 S. Dunning, 11th July, New York 7th
 Feb., Kerosene Oil—Russell & Co.
 JACOB E. RIDGWAY, American ship, 1,720, A.
 Call, 21st Sept., New York 17th May,
 Kerosene Oil—W. Hewitt & Co.
 J. D. BISCHOFF, German ship, 1,803, H. Meyer,
 7th August, Cardiff 3rd April, Coala—
 Order.
 LANCFIELD, British bark, 994, Burns, 7th
 August, New York 7th March, Kerosene
 Oil—Order.
 LUZON, American ship, 1,319, J. G. Park, 19th
 Sept., Shanghai 13th Sept., Tea and
 Straw Braid—Captain.
 MARY L. STONE, American ship, 1,420, C. C.
 Park, 14th Sept., New York 6th May, Oil—
 Russell & Co.
 OSAKA, British bark, 517, Jones, 2nd Sept.,
 Cebu 14th August, Sugar—Wielor & Co.
 RICHARD PARSONS, American bark, 1,176, Geo.
 A. Freeman, 22nd June, New York 19th
 Feb., Kerosene Oil—Russell & Co.
 SARA MERRISSE, Peruvian schooner, 245, A.
 Manning, 24th July, Saigon 27th June,
 Rice—Captain.
 SINTRAM, American ship, 1,590, Woodside, 20th
 August, Russell & Co.
 TARAPACA, British bark, 495, H. Kennett, 11th
 Sept., Sandakan 25th August, Timber—
 Gibb, Livingston & Co.

Intimations.

Dr. Knorr's
ANTIPYRINE.
(Dose for Adults 15 to 25 grains try.)
 IS the most approved and most efficacious
 remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE,
 NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER,
 TYPHUS, ERYSIPELAS, HOOPING-
 COUGH, and many other complaints. It is
 also the very best Antiseptic. Highly recom-
 mended by the medical Faculty. To be had from
 every reputed Chemist and Druggist. Ask for
 Dr. KNORR'S ANTIPYRINE! Each Tin
 bears the inventor's signature, "Dr. KNORR"
 in red letters.
 Supplies constantly on hand at the China
 Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents
 for China. Beware of spurious imitations!
 Hongkong, 20th May, 1886. [142]

G. RENNIE STEWART,
 MANUFACTURER AGENT AND GENERAL
 COMMISSION MERCHANT,
 12, D'AGUIAR STREET, HONGKONG.
AGENT FOR
 J. & R. HARVEY & Co., Dundashill
 Distillery, Glasgow.
 McKenrie, Driscoll & Co. Wine Shippers,
 Jere de la Frontera, and Oporto.
 Valentin Iron & Steel Co., Glasgow.
 Pulsometer Engineering Co., London, Ice
 Machines.
 Wilson & Baird, Engineers' Ironmongers,
 Glasgow.
 Boyd & Robertson, Tweed Mills, Selkirk.
 Clark Brothers, Tweed Mills, Galashiels.
 Estimates given for supplying and fitting up
 Machinery for Mills and Factories.
 Illustrated Catalogues and Price Lists for all
 kinds of Engineering Machinery, Soda Water
 Machinery, Steam and Hand Sawing Machines,
 and Wood Working Machinery, Bottling and
 Corking Machines, Cooking Stoves and Ranges,
 Lamps, etc., Canned Goods, Felt and Pith Hats
 and Helmets, Paints, Oils, Varnish, Enamels,
 etc., &c.
 Samples of Wines, Spirits, Woollen Goods,
 Linoleum, Floor Cloth, Machinery Belling
 Leather, Rubber, and Patent Tanned
 Hair, Patent Scandinavian Belt Guides, Engine
 Packing, Rubber Sheets, Valves and Washers,
 etc., etc., can be seen and prices ascertained at
 the above address.
 The Pulsometer Engineering Co.'s No. 1
 Champion Hand Ice-Making Machine can also
 be seen and tried.
 Hongkong, 28th August, 1890. [1230]

NOTICE.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA
DOCK COMPANY,
LIMITED.
SHIPMASTERS AND ENGINEERS
 are respectfully informed that, if upon
 their arrival in this Harbour some of the
 COMPANY'S FOREMEN should be at hand,
 ORDERS FOR REPAIRS, if sent to the HEAD
 OFFICE, No. 14, PRAYA CENTRAL, will receive
 prompt attention.
 In the event of complaints being found
 necessary, communication with the Undersigned
 is requested, when immediate steps will be taken
 to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.
 D. GILLIES,
 Secretary.
 Hongkong, 25th August, 1890. [15]

Intimations.

NOTICE.
GRIFFITH'S PHOTOGRAPHIC ROOMS
 1, Ice House Road are suitably lighted to
 produce all styles of Portraiture in any weather.
 CABINETS from \$6 a dozen.
 CARTES DE VISITE from \$3 a dozen.
 LIFE SIZED BUSTS in Colour, or Black &
 White.
 IVORY MINIATURES, &c., &c.
 NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG and the
 Coast Ports are always ready.
 Hongkong, 24th September, 1890. [1140]

J. & R. HARVEY & Co.,
 DUNDASHILL DISTILLERY, GLASGOW.
 Established 1770:
SCOTCH WHISKIES.
 Finest Pure Malt Scotch Whisky.
 O.H.M. Old Highland Malt Whisky.
 F.O.S. Fine Old Scotch Whisky.
 V.O.S. Very Old Scotch Whisky.

MESSRS. HARVEY & Co.'s Pure Malt
 Whiskies have for over fifty years com-
 manded the largest sale in the English Market.
 ANY WHISKY made in Scotland, and
 being thoroughly matured in Sherry Wood casks
 very mild and mellow, and are confidently
 recommended as a Pure, Wholesome Spirit
 is desired.
 Over one million Gallons produced annually.
 For Prices and Samples, apply to
 G. RENNIE STEWART,
 12, D'AGUIAR STREET, HONGKONG.
 Sole Agent for China and Japan.
 Hongkong, 28th August, 1890. [1220]

CARBOLINEUM AVENARIUS,
(REGISTERED).

AN ANTISEPTIC PAINT for the Preservation
 of Wood, Walls, Ropes and Ship's
 Tackle. May be applied to Beams, Floors, Walls,
 Ceiling, Wooden Ornament, Eaves, Roofs,
 Wooden Sheds, Farmers' and Gardeners' Imple-
 ments, Carts, Posts, Fences, Stables, Gates,
 Bridges, Boats, and all Timber underground.
 Effectually excludes all dampness from walls
 painted with it and entirely prevents the crum-
 bling away and decay of both stone and bricks.
 White ants do not touch wood painted with
 Carbolineum Avenarius.
 Used during the last 14 years with the utmost
 success, as proved by numerous Testimonials
 from living authorities.
 Sold in casks of about 450 lbs. net. Price
 8 cents per lb.
 For further particulars, apply to
 SCHEELE & Co.,
 Sole Agents,
 No. 16, Stanley Street.
 Hongkong, 2nd December, 1889. [190]

TOURISTS

ARE cordially invited to call and inspect our
 choice collection of Japanese and Chinese
 FINE ART CURIOS, which is unequalled in
 Japan.
 Every article guaranteed as represented. No
 trouble to show goods. One price only.
 DEAKIN BROS. & Co.,
 18, Upper Victoria Road,
 Farnsworth's Photographic Studio.
 [27]

A. G. GORDON & Co.,
LIMITED.

ENGINEERS, LAUNCH BUILDERS,
GENERAL AND GOVERNMENT
CONTRACTORS, IRONMONGERS, COM-
MISSION AGENTS, VALUATORS, IRON
AND TIMBER MERCHANTS.

WORKS:
 BOWENSTON, EAST POINT.
OFFICE:
 9, PRAYA CENTRAL.
STEAM LAUNCH COMPANY, LIMITED.
 Hongkong, 1st May, 1889. [54]

W. S. MARTEN;
ARTISTIC DECORATOR,
 2, DUDDELL STREET,
 HONGKONG.
 Hongkong, 6th April, 1890. [574]

TO LET UNFURNISHED,
 From August 1st.

TWO GOOD ROOMS, with Bath Room, in
 the Calne Road. Rent moderate.
 Splendid View of the Harbour.
 Apply to
 W. S. MARTEN,
 2, DUDDELL STREET.
 Hongkong, 3rd July, 1890. [999]

Geo. Fenwick & Co.,
LIMITED,
VICTORIA FOUNDRY, WANCHAI.

ENGINEERS, IRON AND BRASS
FOUNDERS, GOVERNMENT & GENERAL
CONTRACTORS, &c.
 Established 1880.
 Hongkong, 20th January, 1890. [1150]

PURE ICE.

IN from two to three minutes, by the Pulsom-
 eter, Engineering Co.'s Champion Hand Ice-
 Making Machine.
NO FREEZING POWDERS REQUIRED.
 Will Ice Carafes in one minute, and make
 Block Ice and Ice Cream, Ice Sparkling Wines,
 Soda Water, Beer, &c.
 The No. 1 Machine is very portable and
 compact—Measurements 24" by 18" by 12".
 The No. 2 Machine can be seen and tried, and
 prices ascertained at the Office, No. 12,
 D'AGUIAR STREET.
 All Machines tested by actual Ice-making
 before delivery.
 G. RENNIE STEWART,
 Agent, Hongkong.
 Hongkong, 28th August, 1890. [1231]

KUHN & Co.,
JAPANESE AND CHINESE FINE
ART DEPOT,
 21 & 23, QUEEN'S ROAD.
 Hongkong, 21st July, 1890. [1079]

To be Let.

TO LET.
N. O. 3, MORRISON HILL.
 Immediate entry.
 Apply to
 G. C. ANDERSON,
 13, PRAYA CENTRAL.
 Hongkong, 22nd April, 1890. [958]

TO LET.
A HOUSE IN WEST TERRACE.
 Immediate Entry.
 Apply to
 G. C. ANDERSON,
 13, PRAYA CENTRAL.
 Hongkong, 3rd May, 1890. [1311]

TO BE LET.
THREE HOUSES at Wild Dell Buildings,
 Wanchai Road.
 A BUNGALOW and HOUSE on the Upper
 Richmond Road.
 No. 1 RICHMOND TERRACE, Six Dwell-
 ing Rooms, English Kitchen, Fowl House, Con-
 servatory, and well shaded Tennis Lawn.
 Apply to
 HENRY HUMPHREYS.

TO BE LET OR SOLD,
 On favourable terms, with Immediate
 Possession.

EIGHT HOUSES at "Mountain View,"
 Peak District, near Plover's Gap.
 If sold part of the Purchase money can remain
 on Mortgage.
 Apply to
 JOHN A. JUFF,
 36, Queen's Road Central,
 Hongkong, 4th October, 1890. [1146]

TO LET.
FROM the 1st November next, Nos. 6 and 9,
UPPER MOSQUE TERRACE.
 For particulars, apply to
 H. J. SAMPSON,
 No. 7, Connaught House.
 Hongkong, 2nd October, 1890. [1382]

TO LET.
N. O. 7, 9 & 11, SEYMOUR TERRACE.
 No. 4, OLD BAILEY STREET.
 OFFICES and CHAMBERS in Connaught
 House, Queen's Road Central.
 OFFICES in Victoria Buildings.
 TUSCULUM, MAGAZINE GAP.
 Apply to
 DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
 Hongkong, 2nd October, 1890. [13]

TO LET.
POSSESSION from 1st November, 1890.
FIRST FLOOR No. 1, Blue Buildings.
 Apply to
 THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
 & AGENCY Co., Ltd.
 Hongkong, 29th September, 1890. [1362]

TO LET.
TWO Comfortable and well furnished Bed-
Rooms, with or without board.
 Apply to
 Nos. 23 & 25, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.
 Hongkong, 27th September, 1890. [1359]

TO LET.
Immediate Possession.
TOP FLOOR of No. 17, PRAYA CENTRAL (above
Messrs. Douglas, Laprak & Co.'s Office).
 Apply to
 THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
 & AGENCY Co., Ltd.
 Hongkong, 26th September, 1890. [1346]

TO BE LET.
 Just below Peak Flagstaff.
BAHAR LODGE—FURNISHED.
 Apply to
 HUGHES & EZRA.
 Hongkong, 17th April, 1890. [632]

TO LET.
FIRST FLOOR of HOUSE, 15, PRAYA
CENTRAL.
 2nd FLOOR of HOUSE, No. 64, Queen's
 Road Central.
 Apply to
 LAI HING & Co.,
 No. 153, Queen's Road Central.
 Hongkong, 22nd March, 1890. [469]

TO LET.
With Immediate Possession.
GROUND FLOOR No. 2, Blue Buildings.
 1st FLOOR No. 3, Blue Buildings.
 Apply to
 THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
 & AGENCY Co., Ltd.
 Hongkong, 1st July, 1890. [988]

For Sale.

NOW READY.
 A SECOND EDITION OF THREE THOUSAND COPIES
 OF
"THE LAW OF STORMS IN THE
EASTERN SEAS,"
 (by W. Debris, Director of Hongkong
 Observatory).

THIS useful work has been re-written and
 greatly enlarged, and is illustrated by
 lithographs showing the courses of the typhoons
 of late years.
 The pamphlet is issued at One Dollar, and
 may be obtained from
 Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Hongkong,
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 Mr. M. F. de Silva, Canton.
 Messrs. de Mello & Co., Macao.
 Mr. N. Moelle, Amoy.
 Messrs. Hoyle & Co., Fooking.
 Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Shanghai.
 Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Yokohama.
 Rev. S. J. Smith, Bangkok.
 Messrs. Sayle & Co., Ltd., Singapore.
 Messrs. Ambrose Prince & Co., Paris & London.
 or the
"HONG

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2661.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1890.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER.

BIRTHS.

At Newburgh, on the 18th September, the wife of E. L. M. ROBINSON, of a son.

On the 21st of September, at Her Majesty's Legation, in King, the wife of HERBERT F. IRADY, of a son.

At Shanghai, on the 23rd September, the wife of W. H. T. BOW, of a daughter.

At Shanghai, on the 26th September, the wife of Dr. ZENDELUS, of a son.

At Shanghai, on the 29th September, the wife of JOHN GRAHAM, of a son.

At Shanghai, on the 30th September, the wife of ALICE C. RAMSAY, of a son.

At the Married Quarters, Hongkong, on the 5th inst., the wife of Sergeant EDWARDS, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, of a son.

DEATHS.

At Shanghai, drowned, on the 27th September, ALEXANDER ANDERSON, 3rd Engineer steamship *Falching*, aged 24 years.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 29th September, CHRISTOPHER ARMISTAD, 1st and 2nd officer of the steamship *Patroclus*, aged 33 years.

At Shanghai, on the 1st October, GEORGE WATSON CUTTS, aged 57 years.

At Hamburg, on the 3rd October, 1890, WILLIAM ROST, of Carl. Witz & Co.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1890.

MR. WICKING AND THE WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY.

THAT erratic local personality known as Mr. HARRY WICKING has again made himself a conspicuous object for public comment. There is an unfortunate class of men in this world who never know when to let well alone, who lack the discretion to keep quiet when childish babbling can do no earthly good, and Mr. Wickings would appear to belong to that class. This gentleman is a shareholder in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and he evidently intends not to allow the Hongkong community to forget that fact. It will be remembered that at the third ordinary annual meeting of the Wharf and Godown Company, held on the 28th of June last, a proposal was made and adopted "that a Committee of Investigation be appointed to examine into and report on the working of the Company's business, the directors to appoint two representatives and the shareholders two," the Board of Directors acquiescing in the proposed inquiry. At an extraordinary meeting, held on July 19th, the Hon. C. P. CHATTA and Mr. L. POINTEKUR were appointed to represent the Board, Mr. C. S. TAYLOR and Mr. HARRY WICKING being the nominees of the general body of shareholders. When this resolution was first brought up for confirmation at another extraordinary meeting, held on August 5th, at which only five shareholders were present outside the Board of Directors, it was lost by two votes to one; but on being put to the vote a second time it was declared carried by four to two. These facts are important as showing exactly the amount of interest taken by shareholders generally in the proposed inquiry.

The ostensible object of the investigation was to examine into the details of the Company's working, and in view of the unsatisfactory character of the management during the previous year, and the opinions current as to the expensive, inefficient and otherwise defective methods employed, we cannot but think that good grounds existed for the action initiated by certain shareholders, and further that the Directors acted wisely in offering every facility for a thorough examination into the alleged defective system. And now Mr. Wickings comes to the front:

To the Hon. J. J. KESWICK, Chairman of the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Limited.

Sir, I forwarded to you my report on the above Company on the 3rd September. As I have not been favoured with an acknowledgment of the same, I shall be glad to learn what steps the Directors propose to take in this matter. I have been led to believe it was part of my duty as one of the representatives of the general body of shareholders to have sent copies of my report to each shareholder, and for this reason I am all the more anxious to learn what steps the Directors intend to take in order to secure this publicity. It is also desirable to know whether or not it is the intention of the Directors to call a meeting of the shareholders to consider the points raised in the report. I shall be glad of an early answer so that I may be in a position to satisfy the inquiries made to me by shareholders in the Company. In any case this letter and the reply thereto will be published for general information. I have the honour to remain, Sir, Your obedient servant,

HARRY WICKING.

From this letter it seems that instead of a combined inquiry by the four members of the Committee, that might have been of some utility, each one was called upon to investigate and report independently—a most unsatisfactory and practically valueless mode of procedure. However, that will doubtless be seen hereafter. Mr. Wickings had completed and sent in his report to the Chairman of the Company on September 3rd, and now he wants to know what steps the Directors propose to take in the matter—a very natural and not unreasonable desire, if perhaps slightly premature, considering that the reports of the other investigators had not been received; but when he says he has been led to believe that it was part of his duty, as one of the representatives of the general body of shareholders, to have sent copies of his report to each shareholder, he talks arrant nonsense and displays an ignorance of business routine for which those who know him best will scarcely feel inclined to give him full

credit. As a matter of course the various reports will be fully and carefully considered by the Board of Directors, and it will be their duty to adopt, reject, or otherwise deal with any suggestions that may have been made. But it should not be overlooked that the uncontrolled management of the Company is solely vested in the hands of the Directors, who are personally responsible to the shareholders, and therefore it by no means follows that any suggested alterations or improvements in the business working of the concern will meet the approval of the Board; nor should we think it likely, as Mr. Wickings assumes, unless under exceptional circumstances, that the Directors will either give publicity to the reports or submit them in detail to the criticism and decision of an extraordinary general meeting. Mr. Wickings entirely misconceives the special purpose for which the Committee of Investigation was appointed. It was not to prepare a series of reports for the edification of a few more or less interested shareholders, but simply to make inquiry into certain details of working, with the object, if possible, of enabling the Directors to effect any improvements on the present system. The "points" raised in the reports will be decided by the Board, and shareholders who wish to make inquiries have no earthly right to bother Mr. Wickings, as he says has been the case, but should apply to the Secretary of the Company. Mr. Wickings has no responsibility whatever in the matter; he has done the work he volunteered to perform and his mission is ended. With all these plain facts staring him in the face, the indiscretion displayed by this irrepressible gentleman in attempting to "put on the screw" in the letter above quoted—"In any case this letter and the reply thereto will be published for general information"—is difficult to understand. It seems marvellous that he did not even go the length of threatening to publish his report for general information, and carefully reading his letter between the lines that would almost appear to be Mr. Wickings' aim and desire. Needless to say the Chairman of the Board rose to the occasion. His reply was brief but crushing. Here it is:

Hongkong, 3rd October, 1890.
Sir—The report which you forwarded on the 3rd ultimo was duly received and handed by me to Mr. Osborne, Secretary of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited. As soon as Mr. Osborne has received the reports of other members of the Special Committee, they will be laid before the Directors together with your own.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
J. J. KESWICK,
Chairman, Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited.

Harry Wickings Esq.

Mr. HARRY WICKING would have been discreet had he exercised a little more patience before so aimlessly rushing into print as the only "general information" his correspondence affords is the very uncomplimentary suggestion that the man who "talks all he knows will talk more than he knows. Great talkers discharge too quickly to take always true aim."

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION FRAUD.

A certain sage of ancient times committed himself to the opinion that "figures cannot lie." A Solomon of the past can very easily be a "Sir BALAM" of the present, and we place the genius we have referred to in the latter category. It may be his misfortune, however, and not altogether a case of blatant ignorance. Our sage did not know Hongkong; he was entirely ignorant of that gigantic imposture known as our "Increased Military Contribution;" Lord KUNTSFORD, the shallowest trickster of the many noodles now figuring as direct representatives of Britain's Majesty, was an unknown quantity; while Mr. EDWARD STANHOPE and the ravenous wolves of the War Office had no tangible existence. The taxpayers of this colony know all about these men and things, however, and are in a position to appreciate them at their proper value.

We have no intention just now of formally impeaching the Colonial Office and the War Department of deliberate and disgraceful breaches of faith with this colony, on the subject of our increased military contribution and local defences; but that is what we mean to do; and in no uncertain terms, after the unofficial members of Council have pointed out and fully exposed the debasing, treacherous and falsehood of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. In reference to these matters, The annual addition of £20,000 to our military contribution was granted under special provisions, which were endorsed and agreed to by the local Government; these provisions have been grossly and deliberately ignored and set aside, and Lord KUNTSFORD tries to extenuate his contemptible chicanery. In a despatch that was laid before the Council yesterday—a despatch which is worthy of Lord KUNTSFORD—"The unofficial members of the Legislative Council and the Hongkong public have been most egregiously fooled by the Colonial Office; they voted all that was asked for as an additional military contribution and for the Imperial defences of this island, but only on the distinct understanding that the limit had been reached, and that no further call would be made on an already heavily taxed community." And what is the result? The War Office laughs at us, and KUNTSFORD, calmly ignoring his former sacred promise, demands that the taxpayers should now make a fair contribution towards the construction of new barracks—which we do not want, unless the

old sites are handed back to the colony—and further that, should the necessity for any new defence works arise, their cost would form the subject of a separate agreement, and that it must not be understood that the whole charge for them would be borne by the Imperial Exchequer. If this fraud is attempted to be forced on the community, as seems probable, the whole of the unofficial members of Council, in view of what occurred when the addition to the military contribution and the cost of the local forts were sanctioned, should at once resign, as a strong protest against the inexcusable bad faith of Lord KUNTSFORD and his advisers. The effect of such a step is obvious.

After carefully analysing the Secretary of State's latest attempt at "rattling," we shall deal in detail with his reasons for breaking all past promises and trying to saddle Hongkong with additional burdens in the interests of a practically defunct and corrupt Imperialism. To-day we merely direct attention to the matter, so that the unofficial members of Council may be induced to study the question, see what was officially promised in the past, and be prepared when the time comes to adequately defend the public interests they are presumed to represent. "Figures cannot lie," repeats Lord KUNTSFORD in the parrot-like accents of a nineteenth century fool. The naval and military contributions for the current year for the defence of the Empire, he says, amount to sixteen shillings and five pence per head of the population of Great Britain. And the Hongkong annual contribution of £40,000, adds Sir BALAM, is a very much smaller charge per head than is the case with the Mother Country. And it is here that his lordship's figures lie most glaringly. Will His Excellency the Administrator oblige the Secretary of State and the Hongkong community by publicly stating how many of our by far too highly estimated population of 215,000 pay anything at all towards the revenue? By so doing he will effectually demolish a fallacious argument that is calculated to work infinite mischief both here and elsewhere. Lord KUNTSFORD's arguments respecting the Colony's increased military contribution show a strong family likeness to Mr. J. M. PRICE's notoriously unreliable statistics about the Tylam Water Works, and will not bear honest inspection.

KOREA AND HER FUTURE.

There is no necessity for either the *Daily Press* or the Peking correspondent of the *Times* to jump to rash conclusions respecting Russian designs upon the Korean peninsula. The settlement of the question does not rest with China by any means, at all events so long as Great Britain remains, what she now is, the leading Power of the world. It is perfectly true, however, as the *Times* puts it, that "the agents of Russia are exceedingly active in the peninsula, and are effectively supported by a number of Americans, missionaries and others, who have the ear of the King and flatter him with visions of independence." There was a time, and not so very long ago, when a virtually independent Korea, under the guarantee of the treaty Powers, was a feasible solution of the difficult problem presented by the vexed relations between Korea and China and the Powers with whom the first named country has concluded treaties of amity and commerce. But, *mirabile dictu*, nothing has stood more in the way of that much-to-be-desired solution of a very grave question than the suicidal policy pursued by China towards her unfortunate so-called vassal. The neutrality of the kingdom should, as many admit, be guaranteed by all the treaty Powers, and China, instead of holding back, should be the very first to take the initiative in such an important political reform. By so doing the Peking Government would be adopting a dignified course which, while tending to prove her earnest desire for the welfare of her neighbour and late vassal, would effectually checkmate Russia's well-known aggressive designs in that small, yet coveted, land. As Korea stands at present she is helpless for herself and a danger to other nations; but chiefly to British interests, and such being the case, the policy pursued by Russia, with the aid of such complacent patriots as Judge DENNY, General DYER and Dr. H. N. ALLEN, is rapidly becoming positively dangerous. That Korea has received positive assurances of Russian, Japanese and American co-operation in the coming struggle to throw off the Chinese yoke can, in the light of recent revelations, hardly be doubted, and in point of fact we happen to be in possession of important information and secret correspondence on the subject which in due course will be published in these columns. The situation is certainly grave enough at present; Russia's designs are understood by those who have the best right to view her movements with deep suspicion, and the sooner the necessary steps are taken to stop the never ceasing intrigues of this persistent enemy of British progress in the East, the better it will be for all who have important commercial interests at stake in the event of a sudden outbreak of war in Eastern Asia. That Russia will not be allowed to occupy any part of Korea unchallenged by Great Britain, should be clear enough by the tenor of the terms under which we relinquished our hold on Port Hamilton in 1887. We did so under the guarantee of China that no part of Korea, including Port Hamilton, shall be occupied by any foreign Power. If China is in a position to maintain that guarantee in entirety, then England will have to take up the cudgels for her oriental ally; and

Russia knows this. Should the alternative be forced on her, there is not the remotest doubt that Great Britain will not hesitate at once to use the strong hand with Russia should the Czar's Government make the slightest attempt to obtain a foothold in the Land of Morning Calm, and that, too, without considering American intrigues and Japanese pretensions.

BRITISH MERCANTILE MARINE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the above named Association was held at the Marine Hotel, Praya West, last night (1st inst.), when Captain S. Ashton presided. The Chairman announced that a very courteous reply had been received from the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce in reply to the Association's request for a Conference upon the subject of Sunday labour in this port. He believed that the Conference would be fruitful of benefit to all concerned, interested in shipping, for an opportunity would be afforded the Association of showing that its members had no desire whatever to act otherwise, in connection with that important matter, than in concert with owners to their ultimate mutual advantage. There could be but little doubt that a *modus vivendi* was feasible, and that the best way to arrive at it was, for employers and employed to meet together to discuss the question in all its bearings. He was pleased to hear that the first general meeting of a new "Engineers' Association" was being held at the Victoria Hotel. He felt convinced that the Engineers' Association had the hearty sympathy of the deck officers *en masse*, and that its promoters, worked with them the best wishes Marine Officers' Association.

The Secretary then read a letter received from the well known British Merchant Service Association of Liverpool, which the Chairman said numbered some thousands strong, and was universally acknowledged to be the most influential Association of mariners that existed throughout the world. He was glad to be able to announce that this influential society had promptly accepted the Hongkong Union's proposals respecting an alliance. They were now in friendly alliance with the Liverpool Association (loud applause). The letter ran as follows:

The Mercantile Marine Service Association, Liverpool, August 24th, 1890.

CHESEBURY DUNCAN, Esq.,
British Mercantile Marine Officers' Association, Hongkong.

Sir—I am directed by the Council of this body to convey to you a warm expression of congratulation upon the success which has attended your efforts in the formation of your Association at Hongkong, also to inform you that the Editor of the "Reporter" (our journal) will take notice of the movement among the Mercantile Marine Officers in the Far East.

I have also to state that in view of some expected developments among Masters and Officers in the Home Ports, a further communication at length, will shortly be addressed to you. Wishing you every success.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) J. J. GRAYLES,
Secretary.

With a cordial vote of thanks to the President for his attendance, the proceedings terminated, after the Chairman, in a few words, heartily congratulated the Association on its present very promising position.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The famous *Kuling* is to be converted into a twin-screw steamer by Messrs. Farnham & Co. of Shanghai.

Mr. W. S. AYTON took his seat at the Mixed Court, Shanghai, for the first time as British Assessor on the 1st inst.

MONSIEUR A. COG-PORT, Consul-General for Chili at Tokyo, arrived here yesterday afternoon from Marcellus by the M. M. steamer *Natal*.

The body of Alexander Anderson, late third engineer of the steamship *Falching*, was found on the river bank near the Shanghai New Dock on the morning of the 1st inst.

We have received an eloquent account of the distress in Chih-li caused by the floods, particulars of which we have from time to time given. Subscriptions to the relief fund will be received by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

No further news has been received by the Agents of the E. & A. steamer *Guthrie*, and owing to the many lines being interrupted they remain to confirm the whereabouts of the ship. Messrs. Russell and Co. question very much whether the steamer mentioned in the telegram received by Mr. Judd was the *Guthrie*, as the information was only gleaned from native fishermen.

The *Sah Pao* of 22nd September (8th moon day) says:—The Taotai Wan Pien-yin of Yang-tze, through a selfish and greedy Yenching, is engaged 15,000 of the flood victims to make a channel for the river from Lu Kow-hai (near Peking) to Kiu Men-chi in Kuang-hai, and to excavate the silt of the Yangtze river to a depth of 10 feet and to utilize the silt for the stopping of the breaches.

From Foochow the N. C. Daily News has news of the 27th ult. as follows:—Shipments during the past fortnight have been 24 millions of lbs., carried by the *Wingchow* and *Shenchi* making the export of Europe to date 16 millions against 16 millions last year and 2 millions in 1888. The reported settlements for the fortnight amount to 38,000 chests, the buyers having been for London, Australia and America. The *Shenchi* was distributed pretty evenly over the time under review until last day or two, when the market became very quiet, owing to the rise in prices and firmness of the tea market. The last prices advanced about 15 percent all round, including the rise in the lower grades advised by the 1st inst. The fast diminishing stock and very little further supplies expected have given the tea market courage to hold firm, with the result of checking business as above mentioned. The uncertainty regarding the probable total supply of Congou for the season still prevails in spite of assurances by the tea market that any increase in the lowest estimate will be insignificant. According to native reports will not exceed 37,000 chests. The settlement for the first seven weeks after the opening of the market last season they were 35,000 chests and for the same number of weeks in 1889 they were 35,000 chests. The 1889 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1888 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1887 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1886 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1885 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1884 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1883 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1882 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1881 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1880 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1879 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1878 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1877 settlement is 35,000 chests. The 1876 settlement is 35,000 chests. 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THE EAST BORNEO PLANTING COMPANY, LIMITED.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held at the offices of the managers, Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., on the 6th inst. Mr. C. S. Sharp, president, and Mr. H. L. Dalrymple, directors, were present. The meeting was called in consequence of certain communications that had been received from London. It would be remembered that in May last an extraordinary general meeting was held for the purpose of discussing the position of the Company, and to make arrangements for the further carrying on of the estate, and the directors were authorized to borrow money on the issue of debentures to the extent of \$50,000, bearing interest at 12 per cent. for carrying on the cultivation of this season's crop. In accordance with those powers the directors asked for subscriptions, but he regretted to say the issue was unsuccessful, only \$14,500 being taken up, and there being very little prospect of any more coming in. It was therefore necessary to see what could be done in other directions for providing the necessary funds, and Mr. Stokes, on leaving for Europe, was requested to use every effort possible to obtain assistance at home. It would appear that he had been successful in communicating with certain people with a view to forming a Company to take over and work the estate of that Company and the Songei Koyah and Lamag Planting Companies, and a communication had been received from him stating that negotiations for that purpose had been going on, and that it was most advisable that he should be put in a position to agree to the scheme. That meeting had therefore been called to give him that power, and to hear the views of the shareholders. The Company's present position was that they had no further capital to call up, and they had expended not only the \$14,500 borrowed on the debentures, but also \$3,200 borrowed from the agents. On the other hand they had the results of last year's crop, and the present season's, which had been paid for up to the 30th September. Thus their debit side showed an excess expenditure of \$20,000, and on the credit side \$7,000 for the 1889 crop, and an estimated \$70,000 for the 1890 crop, leaving a profit of \$40,000. But to get that crop they must start planting at once, and they needed money for that purpose. The new Company would provide working capital sufficient to keep the present cultivation going on, and would undertake extensions of the present work as seemed desirable, paying off all the mortgages and debts of the old Company, and in exchange for the estate giving fully paid-up shares to the sum agreed on. The directors had only heard from Mr. Stokes by telegrams, which were naturally brief, but they had learnt that the capital of the proposed Company was to be \$200,000, half of which would be working capital, and the other half for the purchase of the estates. Of the latter amount only so much would be paid as was required to liquidate the old concerns and float the new one, which was estimated at the high figure of \$15,000. The remainder would be paid in fully paid-up deferred shares, the proportion for the three Companies here being fixed in proportion to the sum agreed on. The directors, he might say, favored the scheme, and desired that two shareholders should be appointed to act with them in arranging terms with the other Companies, after the latter had held their special meetings.

Mr. Francis asked what the indebtedness of the other Companies was? Mr. Layton replied that the East Borneo Company's indebtedness was the largest, amounting to \$200,000. The Songei Koyah Co. had borrowed no money, and had calls still being paid, and the Lamag Co. had only a small liability. He urged the appointment of two representatives to the meeting, to assist the directors if not to adopt the scheme suggested to formulate another.

Mr. Francis made an elaborate calculation of the Company had spent its original capital of \$200,000, borrowed and spent \$20,000 more and had about \$77,000 in hand and in prospect. Therefore if they chose they could take that balance, leave the estates fallow for a few years, and wait for better times. On the other hand there was the offer of the new Company to divide \$75,000 among the three planting companies. \$75,000 were \$340,000. That, divided among 15,000 shares, gave about \$22.66 a share, towards the \$30 paid for the old ones. But then there was a big working capital to go on with and run the estates at a profit. He thought the scheme a very reasonable one, subject to some modifications.

Mr. Garfit asked if the scheme was a definite one, or if it was simply one that might be arranged?

The Chairman said there was nothing definitely offered.

Mr. Layton then proposed "That the directors be empowered to take the necessary steps to amalgamate this Company, or this Company and the Songei Koyah and Lamag Planting Companies, or either of them, with a new Company, to be formed to acquire the assets and liabilities of this Company, or of this Company in conjunction with the said Companies, and to settle the terms of such amalgamation."

Mr. Wickes seconded, and it was agreed to. On the motion of Mr. Layton, seconded by Mr. Wickes, Mr. Francis was appointed to act as the shareholders' representative, and the proceedings terminated.

THE SONGEI KOYAH PLANTING CO., LIMITED.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the above-named Company was held at noon on the 7th inst. at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., for the purpose of discussing certain proposals for the future working of the Company. There were present—Messrs. C. S. Sharp, Chairman, H. L. Dalrymple, B. Layton, J. A. Mosely, and E. E. Abrahamson (directors), J. J. Francis, and W. Layton, H. W. Dick, G. S. Coxon, S. Perry, S. A. Joseph, etc.

The Chairman said that the meeting had been called in consequence of certain communications that had been received from London. It would be remembered that in May last an extraordinary general meeting was held for the purpose of discussing the position of the Company, and to make arrangements for the further carrying on of the estate, and the directors were authorized to borrow money on the issue of debentures to the extent of \$50,000, bearing interest at 12 per cent. for carrying on the cultivation of this season's crop. In accordance with those powers the directors asked for subscriptions, but he regretted to say the issue was unsuccessful, only \$14,500 being taken up, and there being very little prospect of any more coming in. It was therefore necessary to see what could be done in other directions for providing the necessary funds, and Mr. Stokes, on leaving for Europe, was requested to use every effort possible to obtain assistance at home. It would appear that he had been successful in communicating with certain people with a view to forming a Company to take over and work the estate of that Company and the Songei Koyah and Lamag Planting Companies, and a communication had been received from him stating that negotiations for that purpose had been going on, and that it was most advisable that he should be put in a position to agree to the scheme. That meeting had therefore been called to give him that power, and to hear the views of the shareholders. The Company's present position was that they had no further capital to call up, and they had expended not only the \$14,500 borrowed on the debentures, but also \$3,200 borrowed from the agents. On the other hand they had the results of last year's crop, and the present season's, which had been paid for up to the 30th September. Thus their debit side showed an excess expenditure of \$20,000, and on the credit side \$7,000 for the 1889 crop, and an estimated \$70,000 for the 1890 crop, leaving a profit of \$40,000. But to get that crop they must start planting at once, and they needed money for that purpose. The new Company would provide working capital sufficient to keep the present cultivation going on, and would undertake extensions of the present work as seemed desirable, paying off all the mortgages and debts of the old Company, and in exchange for the estate giving fully paid-up shares to the sum agreed on. The directors had only heard from Mr. Stokes by telegrams, which were naturally brief, but they had learnt that the capital of the proposed Company was to be \$200,000, half of which would be working capital, and the other half for the purchase of the estates. Of the latter amount only so much would be paid as was required to liquidate the old concerns and float the new one, which was estimated at the high figure of \$15,000. The remainder would be paid in fully paid-up deferred shares, the proportion for the three Companies here being fixed in proportion to the sum agreed on. The directors, he might say, favored the scheme, and desired that two shareholders should be appointed to act with them in arranging terms with the other Companies, after the latter had held their special meetings.

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Mr. Wickes seconded, and it was agreed to. On the motion of Mr. Layton, seconded by Mr. Wickes, Mr. Francis was appointed to act as the shareholders' representative, and the proceedings terminated.

THE SONGEI KOYAH PLANTING CO., LIMITED.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the above-named Company was held at noon on the 7th inst. at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., for the purpose of discussing certain proposals for the future working of the Company. There were present—Messrs. C. S. Sharp, Chairman, H. L. Dalrymple, B. Layton, J. A. Mosely, and E. E. Abrahamson (directors), J. J. Francis, and W. Layton, H. W. Dick, G. S. Coxon, S. Perry, S. A. Joseph, etc.

The Chairman said that the meeting had been called in consequence of certain communications that had been received from London. It would be remembered that in May last an extraordinary general meeting was held for the purpose of discussing the position of the Company, and to make arrangements for the further carrying on of the estate, and the directors were authorized to borrow money on the issue of debentures to the extent of \$50,000, bearing interest at 12 per cent. for carrying on the cultivation of this season's crop. In accordance with those powers the directors asked for subscriptions, but he regretted to say the issue was unsuccessful, only \$14,500 being taken up, and there being very little prospect of any more coming in. It was therefore necessary to see what could be done in other directions for providing the necessary funds, and Mr. Stokes, on leaving for Europe, was requested to use every effort possible to obtain assistance at home. It would appear that he had been successful in communicating with certain people with a view to forming a Company to take over and work the estate of that Company and the Songei Koyah and Lamag Planting Companies, and a communication had been received from him stating that negotiations for that purpose had been going on, and that it was most advisable that he should be put in a position to agree to the scheme. That meeting had therefore been called to give him that power, and to hear the views of the shareholders. The Company's present position was that they had no further capital to call up, and they had expended not only the \$14,500 borrowed on the debentures, but also \$3,200 borrowed from the agents. On the other hand they had the results of last year's crop, and the present season's, which had been paid for up to the 30th September. Thus their debit side showed an excess expenditure of \$20,000, and on the credit side \$7,000 for the 1889 crop, and an estimated \$70,000 for the 1890 crop, leaving a profit of \$40,000. But to get that crop they must start planting at once, and they needed money for that purpose. The new Company would provide working capital sufficient to keep the present cultivation going on, and would undertake extensions of the present work as seemed desirable, paying off all the mortgages and debts of the old Company, and in exchange for the estate giving fully paid-up shares to the sum agreed on. The directors had only heard from Mr. Stokes by telegrams, which were naturally brief, but they had learnt that the capital of the proposed Company was to be \$200,000, half of which would be working capital, and the other half for the purchase of the estates. Of the latter amount only so much would be paid as was required to liquidate the old concerns and float the new one, which was estimated at the high figure of \$15,000. The remainder would be paid in fully paid-up deferred shares, the proportion for the three Companies here being fixed in proportion to the sum agreed on. The directors, he might say, favored the scheme, and desired that two shareholders should be appointed to act with them in arranging terms with the other Companies, after the latter had held their special meetings.

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Mr. Garfit asked if the scheme was a definite one, or if it was simply one that might be arranged?

The Chairman said there was nothing definitely offered.

Mr. Layton then proposed "That the directors be empowered to take the necessary steps to amalgamate this Company, or this Company and the Songei Koyah and Lamag Planting Companies, or either of them, with a new Company, to be formed to acquire the assets and liabilities of this Company, or of this Company in conjunction with the said Companies, and to settle the terms of such amalgamation."

Mr. Wickes seconded, and it was agreed to. On the motion of Mr. Layton, seconded by Mr. Wickes, Mr. Francis was appointed to act as the shareholders' representative, and the proceedings terminated.

THE SONGEI KOYAH PLANTING CO., LIMITED.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the above-named Company was held at noon on the 7th inst. at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., for the purpose of discussing certain proposals for the future working of the Company. There were present—Messrs. C. S. Sharp, Chairman, H. L. Dalrymple, B. Layton, J. A. Mosely, and E. E. Abrahamson (directors), J. J. Francis, and W. Layton, H. W. Dick, G. S. Coxon, S. Perry, S. A. Joseph, etc.

The Chairman said that the meeting had been called in consequence of certain communications that had been received from London. It would be remembered that in May last an extraordinary general meeting was held for the purpose of discussing the position of the Company, and to make arrangements for the further carrying on of the estate, and the directors were authorized to borrow money on the issue of debentures to the extent of \$50,000, bearing interest at 12 per cent. for carrying on the cultivation of this season's crop. In accordance with those powers the directors asked for subscriptions, but he regretted to say the issue was unsuccessful, only \$14,500 being taken up, and there being very little prospect of any more coming in. It was therefore necessary to see what could be done in other directions for providing the necessary funds, and Mr. Stokes, on leaving for Europe, was requested to use every effort possible to obtain assistance at home. It would appear that he had been successful in communicating with certain people with a view to forming a Company to take over and work the estate of that Company and the Songei Koyah and Lamag Planting Companies, and a communication had been received from him stating that negotiations for that purpose had been going on, and that it was most advisable that he should be put in a position to agree to the scheme. That meeting had therefore been called to give him that power, and to hear the views of the shareholders. The Company's present position was that they had no further capital to call up, and they had expended not only the \$14,500 borrowed on the debentures, but also \$3,200 borrowed from the agents. On the other hand they had the results of last year's crop, and the present season's, which had been paid for up to the 30th September. Thus their debit side showed an excess expenditure of \$20,000, and on the credit side \$7,000 for the 1889 crop, and an estimated \$70,000 for the 1890 crop, leaving a profit of \$40,000. But to get that crop they must start planting at once, and they needed money for that purpose. The new Company would provide working capital sufficient to keep the present cultivation going on, and would undertake extensions of the present work as seemed desirable, paying off all the mortgages and debts of the old Company, and in exchange for the estate giving fully paid-up shares to the sum agreed on. The directors had only heard from Mr. Stokes by telegrams, which were naturally brief, but they had learnt that the capital of the proposed Company was to be \$200,000, half of which would be working capital, and the other half for the purchase of the estates. Of the latter amount only so much would be paid as was required to liquidate the old concerns and float the new one, which was estimated at the high figure of \$15,000. The remainder would be paid in fully paid-up deferred shares, the proportion for the three Companies here being fixed in proportion to the sum agreed on. The directors, he might say, favored the scheme, and desired that two shareholders should be appointed to act with them in arranging terms with the other Companies, after the latter had held their special meetings.

floating the Company, and the remaining \$75,000 would be divided among the three amalgamating Companies in proportions to be hereafter agreed upon. At the meeting of the East Borneo Company the shareholders gave their consent to the scheme, and he hoped that the Songei Koyah shareholders would do the same. In the opinion of the Consulting Committee and the General Managers, the shareholders, if they approved, ought to appoint one of their number to act with them in considering the terms of the amalgamation. The position of their Company at present was that they had \$10,000 in hand, and calls still unpaid \$8,000, altogether about \$18,000. Of that they would have to spend about \$17,000 on this year's crop. The proceeds of the crop were estimated at five pence each for the 125 fields—625 pence, worth about \$50,000, which would be about the amount of the surplus. Mr. Abrahamson, who had just come up from Sandakan, reported that the work was going on very favorably indeed, and that the cutting of the crop was very well advanced. The manager, Mr. Kennedy, had left. He then invited remarks. There being none offered,

Mr. Dalrymple moved—That the directors of this Company be empowered to take the necessary steps to amalgamate this Company, or this Company and the Lamag Planting Company, Limited, or any one of them, with the company to be formed to acquire the estates and liabilities of this Company, or of this Company in conjunction with the East Borneo Planting Company, Limited, and the Lamag Planting Company, Limited, and to settle the terms of such amalgamation.

Mr. Coxon seconded, and it was agreed to. Mr. Dalrymple asked Mr. Francis to act as the shareholders' representative, to which that gentleman assented, and the proceedings terminated.

LAMAG PLANTING COMPANY, LTD.

A special meeting of the shareholders of the above Company was held on the 7th inst. at the offices of the General Managers, Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co., for the purpose of discussing proposals for the future working of the Company. There were present—Messrs. C. S. Sharp (Chairman), H. L. Dalrymple, B. Layton, E. Abrahamson, W. G. Brodie, G. S. Coxon, J. Andrew, J. S. Gomes, and J. Machado.

The Chairman briefly repeated the statement made at the Songei Koyah meeting, adding that their funds were exhausted in preparing this season's crop, and further funds would therefore be required. In answer to Mr. Gomes, he said that the proportion the Company was not yet decided, from the London Company was not yet decided.

Mr. Gomes pointed out that although the shares of the other planting companies were \$50 each, whilst theirs were only \$25, the former had paid more for coolies who did so, so that the Lamag concern had the advantage of them in that respect.

The Chairman replied that that would all be considered at the conference of the directors. Mr. Coxon—As Mr. Abrahamson has just returned from Borneo perhaps he can inform us what the position of the estates is. It was rumored here that they had been much damaged by floods.

Mr. Abrahamson said that there certainly had been some small damage, about nine fields being flooded about three months ago, but it was not late to re-plant, and that had been done, on higher ground. In all something over 600,000 trees had been planted in 600 fields and there was no danger of further damage. About a quarter of the crops had been already reaped, and the rest should be also inside the sheds by the end of the month. Even the crops on the flooded fields were not entirely spoiled. The estate was very healthy; although, last year, there was an epidemic of dysentery, from which fifty or sixty coolies died, the death rate since had been very light—only one or two a month, and there was practically no sickness.

Mr. Coxon—It has also been reported that tobacco planting as in other places, and from what you have said we gather that the lower levels are flooded at times—does it lie in such a position as to be inundated by the river?

Mr. Abrahamson—During very high floods, when there should be no tobacco in the fields, certain parts are liable to be flooded if the river is not dammed.

Mr. Coxon—Which would involve further expense?

Mr. Abrahamson—Yes; but much of the land is quite above flood level.

Mr. Coxon—In your opinion is the land quite as good as any in the vicinity?

Mr. Abrahamson—Decidedly; I think it is superior to many estates, because it is higher up the river, and as the growth is very luxuriant the land must be rich. All the flooded land can be dammed up later on; it is usual when planting in low lying land; but there is quite enough high land by the river to keep this Company going for many years without going to that expense.

Mr. Coxon—It is expensive enough working the estate, without any damming.

Mr. Abrahamson—Last year was an extraordinary year, because there was so much sickness, but take a year's illness which has not been very severe, and you will find that we had sufficient capital to carry on, I am perfectly certain that it would pay. In the first years there is considerable extra expense, preparing for the next year's cultivation, for instance—one-third of the cost of next season's cultivation has been already borne, but the longer you go on the less the expense, because there are so many buildings, roads, etc., which cost you nothing once they are made.

Mr. Layton—Are the prospects in Borneo generally better?

Mr. Abrahamson—Yes, decidedly.

On the motion of Mr. Dalrymple, seconded by Mr. Abrahamson, a resolution similar to that adopted at the Songei Koyah meeting was passed, and Mr. Abrahamson appointed to act on behalf of the shareholders.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the seventeenth ordinary meeting to be held at the Society's Office at noon on Monday, the 13th October, 1890:

The Directors have now to submit to the shareholders a report of the business of the Society for the year 1889, and for the six months ending the 30th June 1890.

1889.—The net premium collected for the year, after deducting returns and reinsurance, amounted to \$1,219,080.50.

After providing for a Bonus of 20 per cent. on Contributions paid in May last, there remains at credit of Working Account a balance of \$102,908.82 as per annexed statement.

From this sum the Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 4 per cent. share, equivalent to 48 per cent. on the paid-up capital of \$25 per share, and an addition to the Reserve Fund of \$37,500, raising the Reserve to \$770,000. The balance remaining of \$55,408.82 they propose to carry forward to meet liabilities and claims still outstanding, and thus close the account for the year 1889.

1890.—The position of the Society for the present year, so far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:

Balance of Working Account to the 30th June as per annexed statement—\$331,916.66

Add estimate of Premium to 30th September—300,000.00

Estimate of Losses to pay—\$631,591.66

Balance—\$300,325.00

Since the last General Meeting Messrs. F. A. Solomon, N. A. Siebs, J. F. Holliday and B. Layton resigned at various times and were replaced by Messrs. D. R. Swanson, H. Hopkin, A. P. McEwen and H. P. Tennant. Within the last month Mr. A. P. McEwen resigned on leaving the Colony and the Directors have had to deplore the death of Mr. H. P. Tennant.

In accordance with clause 110 of the Articles of Association, Messrs. H. L. Dalrymple and H. Hopkin retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. J. H. Cox and R. Lyall retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

P. RYRIE, Chairman.

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1889.

On 30th June, 1890.

To Working Account Balance on 30th June, 1889—\$385,220.00

Net Premium 1st July to 31st December, 1889—552,561.39

Interest—53,573.30

Balance—\$991,540.69

By Agency Commissions—\$25,284.37

Charges—8,118.40

Head Office Charges—20,258.39

Shanghai Charges—9,836.33

London Charges—29,842.39

Yokohama Charges—6,048.29

Melbourne Charges—6,624.23

Remuneration for half-year ending 31st December 1889, to Directors, Committees and Auditors—9,167.94

Losses and Claims paid—409,095.23

Exchange—49,401.23

Bonus on Contributions account 1889, (declared 16th April, 1889) 20 per cent.—214,954.35

Balance—202,968.82

Balance—\$991,540.69

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1890.

On 30th June, 1890.

To Net Premium from 1st January to 30th June, 1890—\$627,355.14

Interest—20,014.75

Balance—\$647,373.89

By Agency Commissions—\$14,909.11

Charges—5,890.00

Head Office Charges—20,561.57

Shanghai Charges—11,846.05

London Charges—22,878.58

Yokohama Charges—4,607.04

Melbourne Charges—6,895.94

Remuneration for half-year ending 30th June, 1890, to Directors, Committees and Auditors—8,949.72

Losses and Claims paid—193,016.55

Exchange—26,977.87

Balance—311,691.66

Balance—\$647,373.89

BALANCE SHEET.

On 30th June, 1890.

To Capital 100,000 Shares of \$100 each—\$10,000,000

Reserve Fund—712,500.00

Unclaimed Bonus—21,141.69

Investment Fluctuation Account being the increase in market value of Securities—62,439.93

Working Account 1889, Balance—202,968.82

Working Account 1890, Balance—311,691.66

Sundry Creditors—240,363.11

Balance—\$1,841,105.21

By Cash on Current Account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation—28,957.73

Cash on Deposit, viz:—

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation—\$140,000.00

Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China—100,000.00

Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London & China—47,250.00

New Oriental Bank Corporation Ltd.—56,000.00

Amount on Mortgage, viz:—

In Hongkong—\$145,000.00

In Shanghai—41,811.85

Cash invested in Chinese Imperial Loan, C. 1884—102,000.00

Cash at Debt of Branches and Agencies—1,003,063.69

Including £100,421.15, invested in London in Consols, East India Government Guaranteed Railway, and other Securities, £30,000 on Deposit with Banks in London, and £5,000 on Deposit with Banks in Melbourne—18,799.89

Bills Receivable—18,799.89

Bills Remitted to London Agency, 30th June account—17,263.81

Sundry Debtors—141,458.04

Balance—\$1,841,105.21

